GRAND HOTEL,
Trafalgar-square, LONDON.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN NOT RESIDING IN THE HOTEL MAY AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE TABLE D'HOTE BREAKFAST, 3s. 6d.; TABLE D'HOTE LUNCHEON, 3s. 6d.; AND THE GRAND TABLE D'HOTE DINNER, SERVED FROM 6 TO 8.30 P.M., PRICE 5s. BANQUETS, PRIVATE DINNERS, AND WEDDING BREAKFASTS ARE SERVED IN THE MARBLE AND OTHER SALONS.

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PALL MALL
GAZETTE

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Influenza!
MAGGI is prescribed against the
AFTER Effects of INFLUENZA
AS A
General Strengthener,
ESPECIALLY AGAINST
WEAKNESS of the HEART.

No. 7811.—VOL. L.
TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 1, 1890.
Price One Penny.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.

THIS EVENING, at 9, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. Charles Wyndham, Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, S. Valentine, S. Hewson, F. Atherley, F. Emery, and Wm. Farren. Mesdames F. Paget, E. Miller, F. Frances, E. Leyshon and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8.10, "A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS." Doors open at 7.45. N.B.—MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. G. T. Minshull, and Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 172nd Time. Mr. Frank Cooper, Messrs. Marius, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Theo. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James East, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, CLARISSA (57th Time), at 7.45, MEADOW SWEET. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Miss Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Bryer, F. Weymss, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT and EASTER MONDAY, at 2.30. MATINEE of MISS TOMBOY TO-MORROW (Wednesday), EASTER TUESDAY, April 8, and SATURDAY, April 12, at 2.30. CLOSED on Thursday and Good Friday.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.

TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Dalziel, E. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Huntley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Lamb, Armbruster, &c.; Messrs. Cautley, Bourchier, Sugden, Everill, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Lewis, Canninge, Lawford, Grover, Lingham, Arncliffe, Erlynne, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY and on EASTER MONDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 3,700.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)

THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Maud Holland, R. Irving, A. Newton, E. Briant, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies Alec Marsh C. Manie, J. Le Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE SATURDAY, April 12, at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Boucicault, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Goldney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 3,724.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, MISS CINDERELLA. At 9, DR. BILL.
Messrs. George Alexander, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Laura Graves, Edith Kenward, Lilly Young, and Fanny Brough. Doors open at 8.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY.
at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D ALBERTSON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "ZANETTA," at 10.50. Signorina Bessone; Mdlles. Saracco, Marie, Thurgate, and Vergé, and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by PRUET and RIVIERE. Marvelle's Boarhounds and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, the Arabian Whirligigs, Sherman and Morissy, Marie Lloyd, George English, Abe Daniels Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and Miss ANNIE ALBU. Open 7.45 until 11.50.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 7.50. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30 A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTI LANNER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Mdlles. Palladino and Bettina de Sortis, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Malvina Cavalazzi. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 9.30, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. SAVILE CLARKE, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

THE BEST VARIETY COMPANY IN LONDON.—First engagement of Miss Kate Chard, the famous Opera Bouffe Prima-Donna; Albert and Edmunds Troupe in their pantomimic absurdity, "The Elopement"; James Fawn, comedian; G. H. Macdermott; Ryan and Richfield, Transatlantic artists; Blanche Bell; the Kellino Troupe of Acrobats; John Le Hay, the famous Ventriloquist; Marion Graham, the charming cantatrice; Dora Fielding; Sam Torr, comic; Dora Clifford; George Leyton, comedian; Ara and Zebra, Continental acrobatic wonders; Alice Leamar, serio; and others.
EVENINGS, 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.
CLOSED TO-NIGHT (Tuesday) and TO-MORROW.
A VILLAGE PRIEST.—On THURSDAY NEXT, April 3, at 8 precisely, a new play, entitled A VILLAGE PRIEST, by Sydney Grundy. Overture at 7.50. Box-office open 10 till 5 (Mr. Leverton), where seats from 2s. may be booked; also by letter or telegram. Doors open 7.30. Pit circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d.; gallery, 1s.—HAYMARKET.

LYCEUM.—This Theatre will be CLOSED THIS WEEK, REOPENING on EASTER MONDAY NIGHT, April 7, with THE DEAD HEART.—LYCEUM.

TERRY'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY; Manageress Miss GRAHAME.—TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerr. Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 FOR HER CHILD'S SAKE. Mesdames M. A. Giffard, Helen Leyton; Oscar Adye, A. Ellis, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.

TERRY'S THEATRE.—MONDAY NEXT, April 7, and following afternoons (except Saturdays), at 2.30, NIXIE, new play in three acts, by Messrs. HODGSON BURNETT and STEPHEN TOWNESEND. Mesdmes. Helen Forsyth, Ruth Rutland, Caroline Ewell, Charlotte Morland, Lucy Webling, &c.; Messrs. Lewis Waller, Julian Cross, Walter Russell, William Herbert, &c. Box office now open.

COURT THEATRE. Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH. CLOSED PASSION WEEK. RE-OPEN EASTER MONDAY with AUNT JACK, by RALPH R. LUMLEY at 9.0. Preceded at 8.15 by TO THE RESCUE. Box-office open Saturday, April 5. Telephone 3031.
NOTICE.—LAST WEEKS of AUNT JACK.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. THIS and EVERY EVENING at 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled THE GONDOLIERS, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Doors open at 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

OPERA COMIQUE.—Lessee, F. J. HARRIS.
Under the Management of H. GITTUS LONSDALE.
EVERY EVENING at 8. SATURDAYS at 2.30
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.
SHIEL BARRY, CHARLES ASHFORD, and
VIOLET CAMERON
in their Original Parts. A big success. Crowded houses nightly. Box-office open 10 to 5.
Business Manager, Mr. WILLIAM HOGARTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—SUCCI, who is doing a fast of forty days, and has had no food for sixteen days, holds receptions all day. He is watched day and night by Doctors, Pressmen, and Laymen. Admission, One Shilling. Succi has lost 18 lb. 12 oz. since the start, but his muscular strength remains the same.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—THIS DAY.—PROGRAMME at 3 and 8.—ELLA ZUILA and LULU, Heroines of the Lofty Wire (80 feet high and 160 feet long); Stebb and Kropp, the Wartenberg Troupe; the Wonderful Haytors; Fuller's "Astarte"; Baughman and Aldine, Delano, the Man Serpent; Fred Paulsen, a Veritable Strong Man; Milroy Cooper, vocalist; Lavender Brothers, Bicycle Tricksters; the Troubadour Quartette; Professor Cross, Phrenologist; M. Servais Le Roy; Zulima, the Queen of Clubs (in the evening) &c. Beckwith's Aquatic Entertainment at 5.20 and 9.50, in the Annexe, &c.

WHAT WILL HE DO WITH IT?

THERE is nothing easier to manufacture than a surplus. To make a deficit requires courage; to make a surplus requires only caution. The Ministerial organs are loud this morning, now that the Revenue Returns are out, in their praises of Mr. GOSCHEN'S "satisfactory, not to say brilliant, financial achievement." Now Mr. GOSCHEN is certainly a satisfactory, if not a brilliant, financier; but it is absurd to rest his praises on the mere fact that he has got a surplus. The thing is so transparently easy. "Blessed are those who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed." In strict adherence to this simple rule is to be found the whole art of what the Tory groundlings call "brilliant finance." This time last year Mr. GOSCHEN put all his estimates unnecessarily low. Now, therefore, he finds himself with a surplus. The process may be "satisfactory"—if you prefer to postpone the eating of your cake for as long as possible. But "brilliant," or an "achievement," it assuredly is not.

That we have not exaggerated Mr. GOSCHEN'S excessive caution, will be obvious from the following table in which we set forth in parallel columns (1) his estimates a year ago, (2) the actual returns, and (3) the excess or deficiency shown in the latter as compared with the former:—

	Estimate, 1889-90.	Yield, 1889-90.	Increase.
Customs	£20,050,000	£20,424,000	£374,000
Excise*	22,870,000	*24,160,000	1,290,000
Stamps*	12,580,000	*13,060,000	480,000
Land Tax and House Duty	2,960,000	3,000,000	40,000
Property and Income Tax	12,550,000	12,770,000	220,000
Post Office	9,350,000	9,450,000	100,000
Telegraph Service	2,230,000	2,320,000	90,000
Crown Lands	430,000	430,000	—
Interest	280,000	279,155	(dec.) 845
Miscellaneous	2,850,000	3,411,161	561,161
Total Receipts	86,150,000	89,304,316	3,154,316

* Exclusive of transfers to local taxation.

In only one insignificant instance did Mr. GOSCHEN fail to underestimate the Revenue. His finance is like his politics: its weak point is its excess of timidity.

Turning now from Mr. GOSCHEN to the country whose accounts he keeps, we find more that is genuinely satisfactory. A year ago Mr. GOSCHEN defended the lowness of his estimates on the ground that it was impossible at that time to say whether the signs of trade revival were real or only apparent. Let us see, therefore, what the actual Returns have to tell us on this score. This can best be put in form of an account:—

Paid into the Exchequer as shown above	£89,304,316
Paid to Local Taxation	5,185,520
Total Revenue of 1889-90	94,489,836
Total Revenue of 1888-89	89,872,812
Gross Increase of Revenue last year	4,617,024
Deduct for increased taxation	1,110,000
Net growth of Revenue last year	3,517,024

It will thus be seen that measured by the Revenue Returns, the growth of prosperity during the year 1889-90 has been to the extent of 3½ millions. It is not "a leap and a bound;" but it is a substantial increase—showing that the hopes of a year ago were not dupes, and that Mr. GOSCHEN'S fears were cowards.

What, then, is to be expected for the future? Mr. GOSCHEN'S actual realized surplus will go, of course, to the redemption of the National Debt. But what prospective surplus will he have for the year 1890-91? and having settled it, what will he do with it? Roughly speaking, one may put his surplus at the same figure as last year's growth in the Revenue. The Revenue of the year just closed was £89,304,000. The expenditure for the coming year will, according to the estimates, be £86,582,000. On the same basis of taxation and returns as last year, the prospective surplus will thus be £2,722,000. But it is inevitable that Mr. GOSCHEN, cautious though he be, should for this coming year put his estimates for revenue (on the same basis of taxation) higher than last year. Some upward movement at any rate may surely be estimated, and the yield from the new Estates Duty (having a first complete year to run) will be higher. We may, therefore, put the prospective surplus at some sum between £2,722,000, and £3,500,000. What will he do with it? In the first place, we ought perhaps to make a deduction for extraordinary expenditure on new barracks; but as Mr. GOSCHEN is an easy-goer in these matters, and likes spreading special charges over several years, the amount on this head need not be put very high. He will certainly still have enough to do a big thing—to free the schools, say, or halve the tea-duty. We much doubt, however, whether he will do either of these things. Free Schools were put off by Lord SALISBURY at the Carlton until next year. When they come, they will primarily be a boon to the working-classes. It is unlikely, therefore, that Mr. GOSCHEN will confer another boon on them this year in the shape of cheaper tea. What is more likely is that Mr. GOSCHEN will take a penny off the income tax (£2,000,000) and spend the odd money in minor things—such as the abolition of silver-plate duty, remission of last year's beer duty, and reform of light coinage. But income-tax payers should not be too sure. The unanimity with which their interests are advanced in the press is suspicious. Leader-writers, it should be remembered, are income-tax payers, and have pockets, like other men, whose wishes sometimes dictate their thoughts. The best advice therefore, that can be given to the taxpayer is to follow Mr. GOSCHEN'S philosophy: and to expect no relief, for then he shall not be disappointed.

WHY DOES THE CHAPEL BEAT THE CHURCH?

FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER TO THE EAST-END.—V

ONE Sunday night a week or two ago I went to Dr. Barnardo's. A vast congregation was there. I then looked in a few minutes later at a church just outside the Stepney boundary, and found an excellent choir, the numbers of which were very little exceeded by the congregation. Comparing the church with the chapel I asked myself again, why does the Church, while popular in many respects outside her places of worship, fail to attract congregations?

CHURCH ORDINANCES AS A STUMBLING-BLOCK.

There can be no doubt that the lack of definite requirements among Nonconformists—such as Confirmation, for example—tends to fill their places of worship over and above the chief reason for Nonconformity—the neglect of the Church in the past. An illustration of what I mean may be found in a leading Evangelical clergyman in the neighbourhood, now dead, who, many years ago, on being asked by Bishop Blomfield why he presented only two candidates for Confirmation, replied: "The more a clergyman in these parts makes himself like a Nonconformist minister, and does not press Church ordinances, the better chance he has of filling his church." Dissenters, besides successful chapels, have many services in halls. Thus, the Rev. W. Evans Hurndall, a Cambridge M.A., a very successful Congregationalist minister, holds services at the Bow and Bromley Hall; and the Ben Jonson-road Hall and others are similarly used.

THE CHAPEL "PARADE" IN VICTORIA PARK.

I had an interview with the Rev. Archibald Brown, who may be regarded as the Nonconformist Bishop of the East-end. I was glad to learn from him that he thought my statements as to what was going on in previous letters had been very fair, and in reply to a direct query he confirmed the view I had taken of Nonconformists being the Upper Ten at the East-end, an opinion none could doubt if they could see, as I have, the Nonconformist parade in Victoria Park on Sundays, which answers to the Prayer Book parade in Hyde Park, the chief difference being that somewhat large and ugly hymn-books replace dainty prayer-books, and that the dress is different in style, though hardly in richness of material, to that one is familiar with at the West-end. Mr. Archibald Brown told me of another very interesting circumstance also confirmatory of this fact—namely, that recently a day of "annual thank-offering" took place at the East-end Tabernacle, when he sat for sixteen hours in his vestry receiving money, without names, and only with initials, for orphans, widows, and others, to be applied at his discretion. The amount received was £470, from about 1,000 people. His chapel was packed on Sunday both morning and evening; and he told me that he had that day no fewer than 400 of his people, besides nine regular missionaries, more or less engaged in direct spiritual work. The *Church Times* has commented editorially on my undue praise of Nonconformists; but is it

STAGE AND SONG.

"FOR HER CHILD'S SAKE."

Miss Cissy Grahame, I fear, has not strengthened her programme at Terry's by the production of the late Sir Charles Young's "dramatic episode," "For Her Child's Sake.' A piece of this kind, in which the author has endeavoured to compress as much mental stress and intensity as a single act will stand, always requires the most delicate and careful treatment on the part of its interpreters. If it does not receive this it might as well be left unplayed. "For Her Child's Sake" ought not to have been dragged from the comparative seclusion of occasional amateur performances if it was not intended to cast it in a more adequate manner. The piece contains at least three strong acting parts and not one of these is done justice to. Had this "dramatic episode" been in Mr. Hare's hands we should at any rate have had some chance of weighing its intrinsic merits. As it is, Miss Grahame must find a curtain-raiser more suited to the powers of her company.

DRESSMAKING DUCHESSES.

Mr. Pinero is not going to have the field of aristocratic millinery on the stage quite to himself this season. The clever authoress of "Our Flat" has built her new comedy, "Cerise and Co.," to a great extent upon this theme. When the piece sees the light at one of the numerous forthcoming matinées, Miss Myra Kemble will be found in the part of a certain Lady Kilkenny. This sprig of the nobility is engaged in the remunerative occupation of dressmaking, but, as she is anxious to marry a gentleman who has a rooted aversion to trade in any form, she is forced to keep her "calling" very much in the background. From this position of affairs the complications of the comedy mainly arise. Mr. Fred Kerr and Miss Lottie Venne will be a pair of young Americans; Mr. Eric Lewis will appear as an energetic pressman representing the *Lady's Dictatorial*; while Mr. H. H. Morell will enact a peer of business-like habits, who devotes himself to the genteel profession of money-lending.

A MUCH-POSTPONED FARCE.

"The Linendraper"—a farcical comedy, which we have been on the brink of beholding many a time and oft without once doing so—will really and truly be produced at the Comedy on the 17th inst. In the cast you will find Mr. Edward Righton, Mr. Scott Buist, Mr. Frank Wood, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Helen Forsyth, and Miss Susie Vaughan.

THE STAGE SANDWICH.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith, after various elaborate calculations, has arrived at the fact that he has devoured nearly three hundred sandwiches in the last act of "Aunt Jack." This sounds very simple when one considers the length of the run of the piece; but in reality the process of swallowing a given quantity of bread, meat, and mustard at a given moment is not so easy as you would think—at least so Mr. Juffin says. The earnest comedian may vary the internal organization of his edible "property" as often as he likes. He may ring the most artful culinary changes in its composition—commencing with ham and rising to the Epicurean heights of *caviar* and *foie gras*. But yet the evening comes when his soul is ill at ease as the "psychological moment" approaches, and he would fain cast the slender *bonne bouche* from him with loathing. Still it *must* be eaten, and with apparent relish too! Who then shall say that the actor's life is free from serious trials when, according to Mr. Weedon Grossmith, even the harmless, necessary sandwich of Stageland bears in its train so many difficulties and discomforts?

MUSIC AT THE LYRIC CLUB.

I must confess to having been much impressed at the last Lyric Club orchestral concert by the extraordinary progress made by Signor Randegger's band of musicians. It is but a few months since the organization was set on foot, and yet it seems to have reached a higher degree of maturity than many societies which have existed for years. The violins are especially strong; so much so, indeed, that the wood and horns—good as they are—are occasionally overpowered. The other night even the brazen notes of a trumpet solo—played on the cornet, it is true—failed to penetrate the tremolo of the strings. This want of balance, however, is partly the fault of the platform arrangement. There should be a great future in store for the Lyric Club orchestra.

A PROSPECTIVE BIG "BEN."

What is rather felicitously called a "Welcome Home" will be offered to Mr. William Yardley at the Lyric Club on the evening of the 22nd inst. A strong committee, headed by the Duke of Beaufort and Lord Londesborough, is arranging a mammoth programme.

ODDS AND ENDS.

Mr. Neville Doone has recently completed a four act society play, which will be produced with a strong cast at a Comedy matinée on May 8th.—Mr. Charles Collette will commence his provincial tour on Easter Monday at Hastings, under the management of Mr. Gloster Armstrong.—"Domestic Economy" will precede "Pink Dominoes" at the Comedy in the course of a few days.—Miss Marian Burton, who was formerly a member of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, has made a great success in Australia, and is now playing the title rôle in Planquette's "Paul Jones."

possible to overlook such a work as this, about which not one Churchman in a thousand knows anything?

"THE DEVIL'S MISSION OF AMUSEMENT."

In reply to my inquiries as to how far the Nonconformists went in for amusements, Mr. Archibald Brown handed me a copy of his "Devil's Mission of Amusement," which has reached its 134th thousand, in which he utters a vigorous protest against church, chapel, or mission hall going in for the amusement of the people. He said that he thought that the Dissenters did little or nothing in that way in the neighbourhood, and less than they had done—with the exception of Dr. Barnardo's and Mr. Charrington's, which were practically music-halls in the week, conducted on what the owners thought good principles, much, I suppose, as the Bishop of Chester would like to conduct a public-house. But Nonconformists advertise solo singers, services of song, pleasant Sunday afternoons, social meetings, and other things which, thirty years ago, would have been anathema. To Mr. Archibald Brown belongs the credit of having his Tabernacle open every day in the week for some kind of religious service—a fact which no doubt has much to do with his success; for my previous opinion has been confirmed by my East-end experiences—that no church or chapel really affects the moral, social, and religious life of the people, the doors of which are never or rarely opened from one week's end to another. Dissenters certainly are strong in Stepney and the adjacent parishes, so far as attendance at public worship on Sundays is concerned; but they are nowhere in educational or recreative matters.

THE SECRETS OF NONCONFORMIST SUCCESS.

The Church has much social prestige, and numbers who go to chapel prefer to be married and buried with her services. I asked one old woman who goes regularly to a Wesleyan chapel whether she was a Dissenter. "Oh no, sir; I was baptized at church. I was confirmed, I go to Communion in my native town in the Shires, and I was married at church." "Why, then," I asked, "do you never go to church in London?" "Because, you see," was the reply, "when I came up here strange, Mrs C.——, who was so kind to me, took me to the Wesleyan chapel, and when I went over to church I couldn't follow comfortably *the fine singing*." The idea that what is called a good service will fill a church in the midst of such a population as that of the East-end is a fallacy. There are many churches with first-rate choirs, as we have seen, lamentably empty. What is really popular with the people is preaching, and that without a book, accompanied by congregational hymnody. The real secret of success, especially among Nonconformists, where more depends on the minister than in the Church (though by no means exclusively amongst them), is a strong personality. Mr. Archibald Brown possesses this feature more than any Nonconformist minister in London except Mr. Spurgeon, as, in a different way, does Dr. Barnardo. The greater freedom in Nonconformist places of worship, the wonderful way in which people are welcomed by the deacons and made to feel at home, the absence of the formality of a Liturgy the meaning and beauty of which numbers fail to appreciate, all tend to swell Dissenting congregations. My mission will not have been in vain if I have made West-end fashionables, as well as Churchmen generally, understand that Dissent, which is an almost unknown quantity in the world of Mayfair, is a living reality and potent power amidst the masses in the poor districts of London, as it is in the North of England. Churchmen will indeed be blind to their own interests if they do not realize its existence and inquire into the reasons of its hold on the people.

NEW BOOKS.

"A LOVER OF THE BEAUTIFUL."

In presenting us with a study under the above title (Macmillan and Co.), Lady Carmarthen has not written a novel, but a prose poem. Conception, incidents, and treatment are all poetic and thought-provoking. The story is about an idealizing Roman artist, his wife, and a picture. It is pathetic, pretty, and suggestive. We do not think Guido della Varazia is drawn with life and blood about him, he is more than a trifle impossible. But the ideal woman he discovers, Amore da Costa, is an exquisite bit of portraiture to meet with in a novel. The two marry—one to attain the ideal, the other to be loved. Platonic heights are reached, but without love. Guido's pictures fail because they are so cold, chaste, intellectual. Amore's life palls because it wants brightness, love, domesticity. Each finds what is wanted in an ecstasy, but too late. Guido limns the picture of his dead love, Amore, and paints no more. "Beato Amore" is the title of the picture that leads to the story-telling. The underlying thought of the study is that neither philosophy nor love will satisfy a human soul by itself. There must be "a marriage of two minds," as Shakspeare expresses it.

CHARLES IX.

"A Chronicle of the reign of Charles IX." By Prosper Mérimée, translated by George Saintsbury, with illustrations. (Nimmo.) This volume both looks, and by its title, sounds to the uninitiated as if it were an historical work instead of being as it is, an historical novelette. Prosper Mérimée was in this line an imitator of Sir Walter Scott and a predecessor of Dumas, but he was certainly not as successful as his model or his follower. The central incident of this story, as of Dumas' "La Reine Margot," is the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and the hero, like Dumas' hero, is the usual Huguenot young man from the country who carries everything before him, alike in duels and in love, when he comes up to town. The heroine is the usual *femme de cour*, *facilis formosa*, and on the fatal night she, Catholic of course, appeals to him to save himself by recanting, but instead of his bursting forth from her to go to join his co-religionists in death as in the opera, he does, indeed, refuse to recant, but still conceals himself under her petticoats—a more natural, perhaps, if less heroic and exciting, termination of the scene. Eventually he escapes to La Rochelle, where in the siege he gives a fatal order to fire, that results in the death of his own brother, who having abjured Protestantism, and being equally disgusted with Catholicism, has become an Atheist. Mr. Saintsbury in his preface speaks in terms of enthusiasm of the work, which, to the impartial critic who has not been at the pains of translating it, appears exaggerated. Except the death of the Atheist brother, which is finely conceived and executed, there is really no scene in the book which, so to speak, carries conviction with it.

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

"The Origin and Growth of the English Constitution." By Harris Taylor. (Sampson Low.) To the English reader the most interesting part of this work is the introduction. The body of the book is only Taswell-Langmead redressed, a réchauffé of a réchauffé. But the introduction is entirely new to the ordinary English reader, and extremely remarkable. Mr. Taylor directs the efforts of his book generally to exploding Mr. Gladstone's flattering, if somewhat hasty expression, that "As the British Constitution is the most subtile organism which has proceeded from progressive history, so the American Constitution is the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man." Mr. Taylor thinks that the dictum, if true, would not be flattering, as it would not be good statesmanship to invent a Constitution *de novo* without reference to what had gone before, and is not, in fact, true. The American Constitution was only the product of the evolution of the British Constitution in general and colonial history in North America in particular. The account he gives of the way in which the township, the parish, and the county reproduced themselves in the States is extremely curious and interesting. The Colonial assemblies or State legislatures grew up in an informal manner. When the Revolution came these States at first proved merely an alliance against the Crown. The subsequent development into a Federal Union under the present Constitution was a gradual one, and in form at least almost an accident. The American Constitution was no Athene springing fully grown and armed from the head of a Constitution-making Jupiter, but the birth and gradual growth of time. Mr. Bryce has already shown how, in spite of its written form, the American Constitution, not merely by formal amendments but by force of custom, is a changing, a living, and a developing organism.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The "*Pall Mall* plébiscite" on "Browning's Best Poems," which closes to-day, bids fair to be one of the most successful of the series. We are astonished at the number of readers who have cared to undergo the rather laborious process of selecting the "Fifty Best Poems." The task of collating the lists, and then of "finding the winner," will be more laborious still; and competitors must be prepared, therefore, for some little time to elapse before the result of the competition is announced.

The text of the Irish Land Purchase Bill is what might have been expected from Mr. Balfour's exposition of it—namely, very long and very complicated. It consists of 75 clauses, and covers 65 printed pages. Many of the clauses are rich in sections and sub-sections. As nearly every page of the bill bristles with subjects for debate, Parliament has, it is clear, a stiff job before it. The Ministerialists are indeed rejoicing at the fact that the opposition to the bill bids fair to be "all over the shop." But though this will make the opposition less effective, we fail to see how the fact that every clause is debateable from two or three different points of view will tend to shorten the discussions. Our legislators had better, therefore, make the most of their holidays, for they will have a long and tedious term before them when Mr. Smith's Academy resumes work.

If the telegrams from St. Petersburg are to be trusted, the Tzar did a good day's work yesterday. He ordered Mdme. Tshebrikova to be released, and having visited a military prison, and inquired of the prisoners the causes of their imprisonment, he let half of them go free. If only the Tzar had a thousand eyes and ears, so that he could himself see and hear the truth about the Siberian prisons, what an enormous gain it would be to the civilization and credit of his country! On the margin of Mdme. Tshebrikova's letter his Majesty is said to have put, "This is very bitterly written." Let us hope that he will not put the letter aside until he has decided for himself the much more important question—namely, whether it was truly or untruly written.

It would be the cant of anti-patriotism to pretend that the horrors of the Siberian prisons have any real parallel either in Ireland or in England. Nevertheless, it would be well to recognize—especially before we make any public expressions of horror at the *laches* of others—that we ourselves have by no means a clean slate. In the case of the deceased prisoner Gatcliffe, which was raised in the House of Commons last night, it was clearly established that the unfortunate man had been beaten to death; but the Home Secretary confessed he had been unable to bring home the murder to any particular person. Gatcliffe's doing to death in a Manchester gaol was one of those unfortunate incidents "which were inseparable under prison government." Let us hope that no "movement" will be started in St. Petersburg to denounce such atrocities.

The news that bookmakers are doing a lively business at Windsor by offering "Four to one on Barry" suggests the possibility of the betting element seriously entering into politics. Given a very sporting constituency, it is no very extravagant fancy that the electorate might be so honeycombed with bets on the result that the poll would be critically influenced thereby. There are obviously great openings for "hedging." The ardent politician would of course feel bound to strain a point of probability for one of principle, and to give odds upon his candidate superior to his candidate's real chances. The turfite, on the other hand, would abandon his party to improve his book. Altogether the free and independent electors might find themselves looking forward to the declaration of the poll less as the decision of a political issue than as a mere prelude to settling day, and it is even conceivable that some Lord Durham of the future may perform the painful task of exposing a plot to "pull" one of the candidates among his own supporters.

Of all the absurd anomalies of Post Office management which have rewarded the diligent inquiries of Mr. Henniker Heaton, this one about the circular envelopes, which he writes to expose this morning, is not the least absurd. The remedy is so extremely ready to hand, and the trouble and loss self-inflicted by the Post-Office under the present arrangement so painfully obvious. Under the Postal Union arrangement each country keeps its own postage, and the receiving country distributes the letters so posted free of charge. Consequently, if 50,000 circulars are posted in Germany for London at a halfpenny each, the German Government receives 25,000 pence, and our postmen and letter-carriers do the whole of the work of distribution at the cost of the British Government. But this is exactly what is being done every week on a very large scale by English merchants, who first send the circulars to Germany in bulk for that very purpose. And why? Simply because the German Post Office allows the use of a neat open envelope with the flap tucked in, while in England you are compelled to adopt the clumsy and costlier gummed wrapper with open ends.

The King of Sweden has been delivering his opinion upon the Berlin Conference. He spoke with warm admiration of the character of the German Kaiser, and said that he approved of an international agreement upon all the points of the programme except one. "A Swedish king," said he, "who has the welfare of his fatherland at heart, could not possibly give his sanction to the legislative imposition of a maximal workday for Sweden. We are obliged to keep in mind the exceptional climatic and geographical peculiarities of our country." The Swedish workers are not without their advantages; but they have one great difficulty with which the workers of Central and Southern Europe have not to contend. That difficulty is the sun. Labour in many parts of Sweden is entirely conditioned by the sun's light. At certain times they are obliged to work sixteen hours a day, so as to utilize the sun while it is to be had.

The Berlin Congress is not the only body which has been drawing up a programme for labour reform. An article so entitled appears in the current number of the *Century Magazine*; and, if all that it says about the evils be true, its suggestions for reform come none too soon. In particular, Sunday labour is noticed, we see, as a rapidly growing evil throughout all the States. In some trades Sunday work is declared to be all but universal. Photographic galleries find Sunday the most profitable day in the week. Railway employés complain that they are compelled to work on Sundays for nothing. The butchers, and grocers, and bakers, are loud in their complaints of Sunday work. In fact, relaxation of the old "Sunday Observance" appears to have brought Sunday slavery in its train. Humanitarian considerations, it is said, are as dead against Sunday work as is Scriptural precept. So they are; but unfortunately humanitarianism has not yet found any effective substitute for the old religious sanction.

If the Customs officials do not get their grievances redressed it will not be for the want of energetic backing in the House of Commons. When Sir John Colomb and Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Arthur O'Connor combine forces to press the claims of a particular body of men there is a strong *prima facie* case in their favour. But last night this strong combination of non-official members was met by an equally strong combination on the two front benches. Mr. Goschen talked the matter over with Mr Gladstone, and the two financiers came to an agreement to snub the patrons of the aggrieved servants of the Customs. There is no doubt, as Mr. Goschen hinted, that private members are very susceptible to pressure from their constituents. But, on the other hand, Cabinet and ex-Cabinet Ministers are extremely prone to look at administrative questions through official spectacles. The same Ministers who in the interests of economy oppose demands for improving the status of subordinate employés of the Government are always ready to defend such aristocratic jobs as Mr. Labouchere in vain attacks year after year.

THE GRIEVANCES OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LAST NIGHT. BY AN OBSERVER.

THE air of lassitude which has characterized the House of Commons all this session was still more pronounced yesterday in anticipation of the coming holidays. Even the varied interests of sixty questions on the paper did not suffice to fill the benches, and when these were disposed of, and Sir John Colomb rose to move his resolution with regard to the grievances of Custom House officials the House was almost empty. Briefly, Sir John Colomb's contention was that the officials of the Customs Department were overworked, and were consequently unable to exercise sufficient vigilance to prevent smuggling. He argued that the revenue from import duties had not kept pace with the growth of the population, and that consequently there was a reasonable presumption that smuggling had increased. While Sir John Colomb was speaking Mr. Goschen crossed over to the front Opposition bench, and entered into amicable conversation with Mr. Gladstone. The result was presently seen. After Mr. Bradlaugh had seconded the motion for an inquiry into the grievances of the Custom House, the leader of the Opposition rose, and in his most official manner deprecated the interference of the House in departmental questions unless absolute necessity could be shown for such interference. "My own experience of the Custom House," he said, "dates back almost fifty years, and I say deliberately that there is no branch of the Civil Service which has witnessed such remarkable improvements as has the Customs Department. Then we had 1,200 separate articles on our tariff list; now we have perhaps twelve." Mr. Gladstone evidently thought that the woes of the Custom House officials had been exaggerated, but he hoped that the Government would grant the inquiry sought. Mr. Goschen followed, and at once offered to initiate an inquiry and to render himself personally responsible for its efficiency. At the same time he appealed to members of the House not to lend too ready an ear to the complaints made to them by employés of the Government. It was highly undesirable that the conduct of the public service should be influenced by political considerations. He also strongly protested against the idea that members of the Civil Service had a vested interest in promotion. If this principle were once recognized, economy in the public departments would be at an end, for as soon as the superior staff was reduced, the juniors would complain that their chances of promotion were destroyed. A desultory debate followed, in which Mr. Lafone and Mr. Kelly, among London members, took part. From the Irish benches Mr. Arthur O'Connor expressed satisfaction at Mr. Goschen's promise, and gave instances of overwork among Customs officials. The subject then dropped, and Mr. Pickersgill rose to call attention to the circumstances attending the death of a prisoner in Strangeways Gaol, Manchester. The Home Secretary was conciliatory, but said he had been unable to trace the death to any particular person. Two warders had been discharged, and the prison doctor had been changed.

ROYAL PALACES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and on the vote for Royal Palaces Mr. Labouchere raised his annual protest against this special form of national extravagance. Mr. Plunket defended the vote, but the senior member for Northampton is too old a bird to be hoodwinked by official apologies. "It's no good talking about drains. We have heard all that before. It doesn't cost £1,700 to connect a house with the public drains." Mr. Cremer in support of the motion, protested his devotion to the throne, but declared that even his loyalty was strained by a demand for £36,000 for the maintenance of seven Royal palaces, several of which were never used at all by the Sovereign. Mr. Labouchere insisted on a division, but was badly beaten, 61 to 149. The same result followed an attempt led by Mr. Pickersgill to obtain for the public the right of entry into Bushey Park. On the next vote Mr. Seymour Keay asked for information with regard to the Ranger of Richmond Park. He had lived a long time near the park, he said, and had never seen any "ranging" going on. The vote was passed on the stroke of twelve.

A DRAMATIC DIRECTORY.

IN the days of Miss Snevelicci, Mr. Crummles's well-known leading lady, guides like this did not exist, and such a monumental directory to the theatrical lodging-houses of the United Kingdom affords striking evidence of the growth of "the profession." It is published by Mr. Fox, the theatrical wig-maker, of Covent-garden, and contains not only the names of thousands of doubtless estimable ladies who let lodgings to "pros," but such a list of theatres and public halls as staggers the imagination. The size of the hall, the holding capacity of the hall, the price of the hall, are all given, to say nothing of the bill-stickers, and the organ or organs (musical and otherwise). Of more general interest, the advertisements in this volume repay perusal. They are amusing and throw a little light upon the intricacies of a curious profession. We all know that the actor and actress like to see their names in print in other places than the playbill. We are too modest to do more than hint at the other establishments where printing is done. We are not long in discovering in this useful volume that "a special branch of the Agency (never mind which) has been established to arrange for the publication of paragraphs in the press." How many adjectives go to one of these paragraphs, and whether they are to be good, bad, or indifferent, according to the scale of payment, is not indicated. If, however, the actor or actress has any conscientious scruples about the intrinsic value of such "paragraphs," he or she has only to turn over a few more pages to find that another "Agent" offers for his clients "*sound* press influence," "legitimately exercised." No log-rolling for that Agent. But let us turn to perruquiers like Mr. Fox, and cover up the bald places which have been indiscreetly revealed to our profane gaze. Such a table as this is more amusing, especially as the only pantomime is only just over. It is headed thus:—

Giants' Heads, Masks, Dominoes, Noses, &c., in great variety, suitable for Pantomimes, Burlesques, Charades, Balls, Private Entertainments, &c., also Hobby-horses, Donkeys, Elephants with Moving Eyes, Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Dromedaries, Giraffes, Bulls, Foxes, &c., &c.

Hobby-horses, the size of an ordinary pony, tastefully moulded and finished off	£3	3	0
Donkeys, ditto ditto	3	3	0
Elephants, moveable trunk	5	0	0
,, Heads, life size, moveable trunk	2	0	0
Lions' Heads, large size and strong	0	15	0
Lions' Heads, small size......from	0	1	0
Cats' Heads ......1/-, 2/-, 5/- and	0	10	0
Donkeys' Heads, 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and	0	15	0
Horses' Heads.........2/6, 5/- and	0	12	6
Monkeys' Heads, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 7/6 and	0	9	0
Wolves' Heads ......2/6, 5/- and	0	7	6
Foxes' Heads ...1/6, 2/6, 5/- and	0	7	6
Dromedaries' Heads ......7/6 and	0	10	0
Bullocks' Heads ......2/6, 5/- and	0	9	0
Giraffes' Heads ....2/6 and	0	7	6
Storks, large size, moveable beak	0	9	0
Large Heads, complete with imitation hair, &c., suitable for Kings' Guard, Comic Countrymen, &c. Hundreds of different expressions, Comical, Stupid, Cunning, Remorseful, &c., &c., each 5/-, 7/6, 10/6 and	£0	12	6
Demons' Heads, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and	0	12	6
Comic Old Men, 1/-, 2/-, 5/- and	0	7	6
,, Women, 1/-, 2/-, 3/6, 5/- and	0	7	6
Beadle, large	0	7	6
Negroes, 6*d*., 1/-, 2/-, 3/6, 5/ and	0	7	6
Negro Baby, laughing or crying 1/6, 5/- and	0	7	6
Father Christmas, with long beard	0	2	6
Chinese, Male and Female	0	2	6
English Swell with eye-glass, each	0	1	6
Clowns' Faces ....each	0	1	6
Jews' with Beard	0	1	6
Babies crying and laughing, each	0	2	0
Irishmen.............. 1/-, 2/6 and	0	7	6
Hermits with long Beards	0	1	6
Devils, in all colours	0	1	6

As for human beings, you can become a Gladstone for the sum of a sovereign—bald wig, whisker, chinpiece, and nose complete—and cheap at the price. We can find no mention of a Balfour facsimile, so we presume that that statesman is not in demand. This is as it should be. Bill Sikes and Jack Sheppard cost 7*s*. 6*d*. apiece, whilst Sam Weller and Mephistopheles cost 8*s*. 6*d*. and 10*s*. 6*d*. respectively.

AMONG THE HAARLEM HYACINTHS.

A SUGGESTION FOR AN EASTER TRIP.

THE sunny vision of a stretch of at least four entire holidays lies again before the eyes of workers of all classes and the important question arises as to how and where most profit and enjoyment can be crowded into the "empty days." Easter falls too early this year to tempt holiday-makers to put their trust in spring's delights, and to depend on outdoor pleasures, for, though an early spring has done its best to make nature harmonize with the feast of Resurrection, there are as yet neither leaves nor flowers. There is, however, one exception, which is to be found at a distance of little more than twelve hours from London. Haarlem is the name of the old town towards which those should make their way who would, at Easter, see one of the most fair and wondrous sights which "the earth in her fulness" can produce; Haarlem, the old city in which the stones of many a gabled house and gateway—not to speak of the fine cathedral, with its crowned spire and bullet-holes three centuries old—could tell the story of the valour of the Dutchmen of old. Down in the winding streets and under the old avenues bordering the canals, the fashionable woman of the world and the red-cheeked fisher-woman with her straw hat of enormous size and fanciful shape, and her dozen skirts of sturdy frieze, are seen side by side; the steam tram and the primitive Dutch travelling-carriage speed along; and among the lumbering vessels on the canals there glides occasionally a slender, polished "Greenlander," with a single oarsman attired in garments *à l'Anglaise*.

Behind all the glittering window panes—(did ever housewife take such a pride in the appearance of her window panes as the Dutch dame of every degree?)—baskets, bouquets, and graceful stands are filled with flowers; pots of white grape hyacinths, exquisitely shaded, from faintest green to pearly white, tulips of strange new forms and colours, azaleas with foliage almost invisible beneath the great mass of bloom, and ferns of many kinds, look through the windows, in front of a background of snowy lace curtains. On the beds in front or behind the houses great yellow suns, formed of a thousand crocuses, are shining; they spring up from the lawns in clumps of white and every shade of purple, and make their way in many cases to the very steps and doors of the houses, piercing the brown soil with the slender white sheath and lancet-shaped leaves which guard and hold the flower.

But from the gay bouquet one flower is almost always absent, and that is the hyacinth, the flower which has brought wealth and fame to the kingdom of sand and bogs and storks and waterfowl. Why is it that the hyacinth is so rarely included among the window and garden plants? one is inclined to ask, and presently the secret is revealed. On the footpaths, as you leave the pavement and turn towards the quiet country roads, you see bunches of flowers, pink, and white, and yellow, and violet, and sky-blue; they are bruised and broken and slowly withering, just like the buttercups and daisies which our infants go to pick in English fields and meadows, and which drop from their cotton aprons or their baby hands and die where they fall, because they are beneath the notice of anybody. What buttercups and daisies are in England, that, in public estimation, the hyacinth is in Holland, though it is not, in the ordinary sense of the term, a "flower of the field," but is carefully, laboriously, cultivated in bulb-gardens, stretching away over miles and miles of perfectly flat country to the dim distance, where their lovely colours mingle and vanish in a soft violet haze.

Ten minutes outside Haarlem, in almost any direction, you are in the midst of the hyacinth fields, and see, through the hedges on which last year's dry leaves are still fluttering and whispering, visions as of masses of the legendary "pink snow," or of the blue sky, fallen to the earth, or, again, of great golden stars, flickering and sparkling as if carried on the crest of the green billows which form the foliage. And if you go nearer you may even enter the gardens of the hospitable Dutchmen, one of whom, Mr. Van Velsen, accompanied me a day or two ago through his domain. The fresh pink of the peach-blossoms against the garden-walls faded before the beauty of the hyacinths just bursting into full bloom; the "Scilla" and the "Glory of the Snow" were all out, and the beds of daffodils, some with the tips of their long leaves slightly tinged by the recent frosts, gave promise of being out on Easter Day. "Has the stork arrived?" I asked (writes a representative who was at Haarlem a day or two ago), looking at the empty nest, which has been built on the top of a high pole for the "guardian of the bulb field." "Not yet," was the answer, "but we expect him every day now, and he is sure to be here before Easter." This is well, from the picturesque as well as from the more practical point of view, for a bulb garden without a stork lacks one of its most charming features.

Turning in another direction, I made my way to pretty Overveen, where Mr. Ant. Roozen had often before explained to me the mysteries and peculiarities of bulb-growing. In the large new premises which stand in the very midst of Mr. Roozen's wide tracts of land, where countless bulbous plants are now in bloom, I looked at the empty shelves where the dry bulbs are housed and stored, and started on their travels into the wide world; and from a walk through the gardens I returned to Haarlem with a harvest of small irises whose exquisite colouring shows nature to be, indeed, the greatest among artists; with spikes of hyacinths, and, clustering round them all, the smaller of the early spring flowers, even to a specimen of the yellow tulip, blooming less than three inches above the brown soil. The sun shone above, the sides of the brooks and ditches were covered with the bright green leaves of all the "wild things" that grow without the aid of any man; a cart with twelve large baskets of pure white hyacinths, picked half an hour ago, passed me in the road just after I had taken leave of Mr. Roozen, whose last words were, "Come back next week; you think you see the flowers at their best now, but you will be astonished when you see them at Easter. They will then be at their greatest perfection."

Where there is a will there is not always a way, but those who have their Easter trip still before them might well take the suggestion, and pay a visit to the flower-gardens of Holland, and return home the happier for their trip.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

BLACKIE, JOHN STUART. Essays on Subjects of Moral and Social Interest' (Douglas, Edinburgh.)

[The subjects of the essays are:—"Christianity and Social Organization," "Physical and Moral Analogies," "The Philosophy of Party," "Scottish Nationality," and the "Philosophy of Education." Pp. 304.]

HOGG, JAMES (Editor). The Uncollected Writings of Thomas De Quincey. With a Preface and Annotations.

[Various articles from magazines, now collected for the first time by Mr. Hogg, who was intimately associated with De Quincey. 2 vols., pp. 363 and 351. Portrait. 12*s*.]

JOHNSTON, ALEXANDER. "The United States, its History and Constitution." (Blackie and Son.)

[A reprint, with slight alterations, of Professor Johnston's "Encyclopædia Britannica" article on the United States. The narrative ends with the year 1887. Pp. 286. Price 4*s*. 6*d*.]

"MAGA." "Travel, Adventure, and Sport," from *Blackwood's Magazine*: No. VII. (1*s*. Pp. 214 (paper cover).

[Of special interest as containing Albert Smith's famous Ascent of Mont Blanc: a capital "pocket-book" for holiday reading.]

WOOD, the REV. THEODORE, F.E.S. "The Rev. J. G. Wood: his Life and Work." (Cassell and Co.)

[Cloth. Pp. xvi., 318. Portrait.]

READERS LEAVING HOME TEMPORARILY can have the PALL MALL GAZETTE forwarded at the following rates:—Two weeks, 1*s*. 6*d*.; four weeks, 3*s*. SATURDAY'S SPECIAL EDITION posted in time for delivery in the COUNTRY on SUNDAY MORNING, forwarded for 8*s*. 6*d*. per annum. Address. The Publisher, *Pall Mall Gazette* Office, Northumberland-street, Strand, W.C.

GOLD MINING AS AN INDUSTRY.

GOLD-MINING as a speculation has received a shock; why not try it now as an industry? It suits the unscrupulous promoter and the gambling operator to manipulate a gold mine, but the investing public's interest lies in its being scientifically and honestly worked. The present position of South African gold shares in the market is a telling although painful illustration of the first method; some of the Indian gold mines may be taken as an apt instance of the second. The mad rush to acquire claims in the Witwatersrandt, to float companies in Johannesburg or London, to set up stamping machinery, to crush the best and most easily got at ore, to send home the highest returns of gold extracted, to declare fancy dividends, and, as the end and aim of all, to rig the market, has ended, as was inevitable, in wreck and ruin to many an unwary speculator. It is an old story, which will continue to be repeated until mining for the precious as well as every other metal is carried on as an industry, or, in other words, on commercial principles. As businesses are not built up by those at their head always keeping their eye on the Stock Exchange, so gold mining is not likely to be successful while directors and managers think more of the market quotation than the steady development of their property. Mines apparently rich—such as the Salisbury, which extracted over 2,000 ounces in one month a little over a year ago—have now to stop milling, in order that necessary work which should have been done at the outset may now be undertaken. This is by no means a solitary instance of palpably bad management, reflecting as it does upon the skill, if not the honesty, of those in charge. Mining engineers may not have always a free hand, and may be required to do many things against their better judgment; but they too not unfrequently add to a want of knowledge and practical experience a desire to make a brave show, to the eventual undoing of those who place their dependence thereon. A determination to go straight through with the work, opening up and developing the mine as they proceed, doing the dead work that is essential at the outset, will not produce bloated dividends, but it will, if the conditions are favourable, make the property a steadily remunerative one, and add to their own reputation in the long run. We have referred to India for an illustration of what gold-mining may do as an industry. The mines of the Mysore gold-fields passed through the speculative stage, but those which have been taken in hand in a business-like fashion, and steadily developed, have been placed upon a stable foundation as an investment and an industry. With a steady production of two to three ounces per ton there is a rich and profitable return for the capital sunk and the labour expended. If South African mines are ever to be worth the attention of the investor, as opposed to the speculator, they must be dealt with in the same fashion.

The next great development of gold mining will in all probability take place in the East. In those great islands of the Indian Archipelago, Borneo, Sumatra, and Java, great mineral wealth is known to exist. The natives, time out of mind, have searched for gold in Borneo, and in later centuries the Chinese have diligently mined for the precious metal. The gold is found in the river sand, in deposits in the higher grounds, and in the rocks. As might be expected, there is little or no scientific mining; but, notwithstanding the crude methods of working, the want of means, and arbitrary interference of native chiefs in some parts of the island, large amounts of gold are exported yearly. There is an undoubtedly good opening for European capital and enterprise; but, if satisfactory results are to follow, the South African lesson must be taken to heart. Gold-mining as an industry is what we want, and not as a wild speculation.

The Ladies' Corner.

A VISIT TO MRS. JOPLING'S ART SCHOOL.

FOR years past there has been a constant leakage of female students to Paris, where a woman has practically the same chance as a man of learning her art. But the very success of the French method cuts against its practical working, for the more popular Ateliers are so overcrowded that actual supervision is impossible. One or two English artists are now experimenting in the French system, which is after all simply a revival of the mediæval method of an experienced artist of repute gathering round him, or her, a circle of students, letting them see him work, and superintending and directing their work. With a view to seeing the practical working of the scheme I lately called (writes a correspondent) at Mrs. Jopling's Art School in Clareville-grove. Arriving there very early one morning I already found the day's work in full swing, and Mrs. Jopling directing and regulating all. The admirably lighted hall was filled with students, and the life model was posed in their midst. I tried to get into conversation with one or two of the pupils, but they seemed too busy to talk, and I got very short answers. Mrs. Jopling overlooked each student, correcting, explaining, and rebuking; it struck me that she was, perhaps, a little chary with her praise, but she certainly drove home her reasons for fault-finding with very convincing earnestness. The work for the entire month is settled beforehand, and if it errs at all it is on the side of a too comprehensive ambition. Twenty-four different heads of work were in her book.

"Don't you try to do too much?" I asked. "No," she answered. "I must have a wide field, for the very basis of all my teaching is individualism, finding out what each woman can do. I have no inflexible routine through which each girl has to struggle."

"Tell me what are the special advantages which girls get here and can't get elsewhere."—"First," she answered, "we begin with nature and go on to the antique; it was Poynter's method at the Slade, it is my method here, and always will be; even the Academy is going to adopt it at last. Hard work at the nude every day, and on Friday all day, drawing—mark you, life-size from the nude. It *must* be life-size, and I will have it broad and vigorous; no stippling or finicking. Secondly, my pupils have to give a day now and then to making artist's copy at the National Gallery. Yes, I know what Ruskin said about setting dull souls to do dull copying because they couldn't do anything better. That was facsimile copying; mine are to be artists' copies, rendering, if they can, the spirit and soul of the painter—knowing what each artist is famous for, and giving at any rate a bit of Rembrandt's light and shade, or a little of Correggio's colour, or having a try at Van Dyck's flesh-painting; and that brings me to my third point. I do want my pupils to know a little of the literature of art. I don't mean the ordinary art gabble, but to know art from its biographical and theoretic sides; so once a week we have a literature class, and have a turn at Sir Joshua Reynolds, Vasari, and Ruskin. And my fourth speciality is that on fixed days we give ourselves up to the drawing of hands, and very hard work it is; but it's splendid training, and certainly one of the things in which the modern English School is deficient."

"Of course they have all the ordinary routine teaching?"—"Oh, yes; perspective, anatomy, outline, and drawing from the round; memory and eye training, and time-drawing, and subjects for composition; and I had nearly forgotten to say we have a class for design. There's a field for women in art decoration, and many a girl has an instinct for design even if she fail in the higher walks of art; and on certain fixed days we work at wall-papers and patterns of all kinds. When the weather opens we shall get out for a morning's walk in the country. Of course we have the partly-draped male model; all these years the English public has been expecting our women artists to draw limbs and bodies 'out of their own heads,' as the children say."

"You went to Paris, Mrs. Jopling, for your art training?"—"Yes; I studied under M. Chaplin (he trained Henriette Brown, you know); but there is no reason now why a girl should not learn every branch of her art in England."

"Except the French faculty of telling a story prettily and dramatically."—"And that can't be taught, it's a question of race and temperament."

"Yes, of course it's hard work, added to my own professional work. I am here every day at 9.30, and I personally overlook every woman's work—and that reminds me," said Mrs. Jopling, looking at her watch, "that I have a model at eleven o'clock, and must get to work at my own picture."

As I went out I met the model coming in—a little golden-haired girl of six—whose pretty face I may possibly see next May in Burlington House.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15*s*. per month (Second-hand 10*s*. 6*d*. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated List free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A NEW "INDEX EXPURGATORIUS"?

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—A bookseller's catalogue contains the following unique paragraph:—

> These books, which are quite new, were bought by the Admiralty for the use of the sailors. For reasons best known to the Admiralty, they were withdrawn, and having the Government mark on the binding, it was stripped off and the books bound in boards, sprinkled edges.

The books were Arnold's "History of Rome," Mahon's "History of England," Wilkinson's "Popular Account of the Egyptians," Cust's "Annals of the Wars," Smiles's "Lives of the Engineers" and "Life of George Stephenson," "Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotta Family," Brock's "Sunday Echoes in Week Day Hours," Tristram's "Bible Places," "Ancient History from the Monuments" (Egypt and Assyria), "Christian Heroes in the Army and Navy," and Dean Vaughan's "Rays of Sunlight for Dark Days." "Who is to blame?" Is it proscription? or penuriousness? or muddle?

A READER.

CAN'T THEY BE DONE CHEAPER?

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I have read with interest your account of the "University Extension Manuals;" but, while admitting the excellence and value of the forthcoming books, I cannot help asking the question, Can't they be done cheaper? A large proportion of the U.E.S. students are poor, and three-and-sixpence is a price they cannot afford. Why not have some at least of the manuals issued in paper covers with the price of the binding taken off, and so help those whose pockets are light? Cloth boards, with the abominable "slots" in the back, which our method of sewing has called into existence, last very little longer than books in paper covers, and are heavier to carry about, and harder to get into the coat pocket—considerations of importance to those who get their reading in railway carriages or on the knifeboard of an omnibus. Will Mr. Murray consider this aspect of the question? If he does not, I fear many students, while admiring his manuals, will do on their appearance what they do now—think three-and-sixpence a long price, and watch the bookstalls for second-hand editions of the books of the Clarendon Press.—I am, Sir, yours,

A U.E.S. STUDENT.

THE MUSEUM AT BOULAK.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Among your "Art Notes" in the *P.M.G.* to-night is one referring to this museum. France has behaved over this museum very much as she has in political matters. Every species of obstacle has been thrown in the way of its development, and for years the building at Boulak has been overcrowded and ill-managed. Before going to Egypt, some sixteen months ago, I had heard and read much of this priceless collection. But until I visited it I was unaware of the vast comprehensiveness of the museum, and the specimens would, if judiciously arranged, fill a building treble the size of the one at Boulak. The best way to become converted on the great Egyptian question, as Mr. Chamberlain has found, is to go to Egypt and have ocular demonstration of the beneficial effects of English influence in every department of Egyptian affairs. And this has been accomplished in the most unostentatious way possible. Nothing struck me so much at the museum as the fact of the absence of English being spoken. The French officials, of which there are quite a number, do not pretend to know English, and the Arab attendants one would think are prohibited from using that language. The catalogues, the titles of photographs, and other miscellanea are all in French. There is only one very expensive catalogue printed in English, which has been prepared by an outside firm. It seems only too patent, however, that English is discountenanced by the French officials as much as possible, although the proportion of English-speaking visitors must be, I suppose, about ten to every Frenchman. The advisability of removing the museum to one of the large palaces offered by the Khedive a little way out from Cairo has been long discussed, and if it is to be done at last all who know the wealth of antiquities which it possesses will hail the fact with delight.—Yours truly,

20, *Lordship-park*, *N.*, *March* 26.
THOMAS GREENWOOD,
Author of "Museums and Art Galleries"

PROFESSOR HUXLEY AND MR. HENRY GEORGE.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—Pending Mr. George's return, even the humblest of his disciples can scarcely help detecting several astounding (considering their source) misapprehensions and misstatements in Mr. Huxley's papers; and as Mr. Huxley's name carries so great weight, I hope you will allow me to point out one or two of these, selected as samples from a large number. After quoting Mr. George to the effect that the clearer of a forest or the drainer of a swamp is entitled only to the value given by his labour, Mr. Huxley goes on:—

> By a parity of reasoning it would seem that I might say to a chronometer maker, "The gold and the iron of this timepiece are parts of the material universe, therefore the property of mankind at large . . . You are quite entitled to claim the improvements, but you have no right to the gold or iron—these belong to mankind." The watch-maker might reasonably think the task set before him as difficult as that imposed upon Shylock. (*Nineteenth Century*, Feb., 1890, p. 197).

Of course, Mr. George says the gold and iron belong to the community; but is there no other way of dividing the value of a horse between two claimants than that of cutting it in two? The man who obtained permission to monopolize the metal in the mines would simply have to pay for this permission to the community, instead of, as now, to a landlord. And this due once paid, that particular metal would become, of course, private property.

At page 193 of the same article Mr. Huxley argues that it is untrue to say that land alone produces food, since air, water, and sunshine are also required. Surely no one has ever disputed this. We only demand that the natural factor, land, shall be common property, like the other natural factors, air, water, and sunshine.

In the January *Nineteenth Century* (p. 13), Professor Huxley writes:—

> The attempt to draw a distinction between land as a limited commodity, and other things as unlimited, is an obvious fallacy. . . . If the land is limited, so is the quantity of the trees that will grow on it; of the cattle that can be pastured on it; of the crops that can be raised from it.

Surely here there is a juggle with the word "limited." When we say that the land is limited, we mean that it is so now, actually; and that no human power can add to it. But the limitation of the other things Mr. Huxley mentions is still in the dim and distant future, and can only be attained, if ever, through human exertion. In fact, for all practical purposes of argument they may be called unlimited.

At pp. 186-9 of the February article we have a pretty syllogism: Labour (according to Mr. George) is the only title to exclusive possession; a man is not the result of his own labour; therefore a man has no right to himself. Would not this from any lesser controversialist simply be called childish? These instances, which might easily be multiplied, are all I propose to inflict on you and your readers.—Yours very truly,

162, *Adelaide-road*, *N.W.*, *March* 22.
JAMES F. MUIRHEAD.

FOR THE BLANKET-WEAVERS.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I beg to thank you for your insertion of my letter in your last night's issue. May I ask you to be kind enough to make known through your journal that a subscription in aid of the blanket-weavers' strike at Cours (France) is being raised, and that my daughter, Miss May Morris, will be glad to receive any sums at the above address?—I remain, yours faithfully,

Kelmscott House, *Upper Mall*, *Hammersmith*,
March 23.
WILLIAM MORRIS.

BLANKET WEAVERS OF COURS (RHÔNE), FRANCE, STRIKE FUND.

W. Morris	£2	0	0
M. Morris	0	10	0
H. H. Sparling	0	5	0
Collection at Socialist League, Hammersmith	1	6	4

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Announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted for 5*s. each.*

CRYSTAL PALACE.—GOOD FRIDAY, April 4.—Numbered Seats, 3*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* 6*d.*, may now be booked for the GREAT SACRED CONCERT at 3.30. Solo Vocalists:—Miss Anna Williams and Miss Macintyre, Mdme. Patey, Mr. Henry Piercy, Mr. Watkin Mills, and Signor Foli. The Crystal Palace Choir, Military Band, and famous Orchestral Band. Conductor, Mr. AUGUST MANNS. Unnumbered Seats, 1*s.*

At 6.0 and 8.0, SACRED CONCERTS by BAND of GRENADIER GUARDS. Conductor, LIEUTENANT DAN GODFREY. No extra charge.—ONE SHILLING DAY.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—EASTER MONDAY.—The FREE ENTERTAINMENTS will excel even those of 1889, when 78,047 visitors were attracted to the Palace. FIREWORKS by C. T. Brock and Co., including entirely new fire picture, "The British Navy, Ancient and Modern."—ONE SHILLING DAY.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SONS' EXHIBITION. Adjoining Baker-street Station.—PORTRAIT MODELS of PRINCE BISMARCK, the EMPEROR WILLIAM of GERMANY, GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA. Over 400 Portrait Models of Celebrities of all ages and nations. Priceless collection of Napoleonic Relics. New Smoking and Reading Rooms, luxuriously furnished. Organ Recitals at 12, 2, and 6 o'clock. Orchestra from 4 to 6 and 7.30 to 10 P.M. Admission 1*s.* Children under 12 6*d.* Open from 10 A.M. till 10 P.M.

MADAME TUSSAUD and SONS.—CREWE MURDERERS. RICHARD and GEORGE DAVIES now added to the CHAMBER OF HORRORS.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PANORAMA OF THE GREAT FALLS. Lounge, Music, Stereoscopic Views of all America, Cheap Restaurant. Fogs defeated. Electric Light. Building properly warmed. Admission 1s. Tickets at libraries and hotels. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station. Second Year. One Million Visitors.

ART GALLERIES.

SPORTS AND ARTS EXHIBITION.—GROSVENOR GALLERY, NEW BOND-STREET, W. NOW OPEN. Ten to Seven. Admission 1s.

THE NEW ENGLISH ART CLUB.—FIFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of MODERN PICTURES. OPEN DAILY from March 31st to May 8th. Ten to Six. HUMPHREY'S MANSIONS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE (opposite the Barracks).

THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools is NOW OPEN at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, HAYMARKET (next the theatre).—Admission, including catalogue, 1*s.*

TUDOR EXHIBITION.—Patron, H.M. the QUEEN; Vice-Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES. NOW OPEN. (Last two weeks. Will CLOSE April 12th.) NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET. 10 to 6. Admission 1s. Hon. HAROLD DILLON, Secretary

HOTEL LIST.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THE HIGHCLIFFE HOTEL, of world-wide reputation for comfort. Full South. Magnificent Sea Views. Table d'hôte. Electric Light. JOHN KILNER, Proprietor.

LONDON.—The HOTEL ALBEMARLE, corner of Albemarle-street and Piccadilly. NOW OPEN.—This palatial Hotel is Now Open for the reception of Visitors. It is fitted up in the most luxurious style, and is one of the most select Hotels in Europe. Cuisine and Wines of the highest class. The Hotel Albemarle is under the personal management of the Proprietor, Mr A. L. VOGEL.

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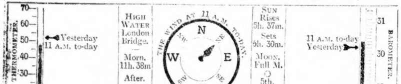

Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

WEATHER FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.

South England (with London and Channel).—Light breezes, chiefly easterly; fair generally.

FOURTH EDITION.

IMPENDING BANKRUPTCY OF AN ARCHBISHOP.

HE THREATENS WHOLESALE EXCOMMUNICATION.

His Holiness the Metropolitan Michael of Servia (says a Dalziel telegram from Belgrade) will be declared a bankrupt if Jacob Braun, a banker, of Buda Pesth, to whom his Holiness is indebted to the extent of two hundred thousand florins for losses at the Vienna Board of Trade, is successful in his complaint just made to the Belgrade court. The Metropolitan when asked to pay replied that his office declared him beyond the reach of the law. The court, however, thinks differently, and has replied that a Metropolitan has no right to become a stock-jobber unless he intends to pay his losses. The Metropolitan threatens to excommunicate judge, jury, and above all banker Braun.

PROPOSED NATIONAL MONUMENT TO BISMARCK.

The proposal having been made in various quarters that a national monument should be erected to Prince Bismarck in Berlin, a number of influential men of all shades of political opinion met there yesterday to take preliminary steps for issuing an appeal to the public for contributions to a fund to be raised for defraying the cost of the proposed monument. The memorial committee intends inviting the Emperor to give his patronage to the scheme. Herr von Levetzow has consented to act as chairman of the committee.—*Reuter.*

BISMARCK DID NOT GO VOLUNTARILY.

A Dresden telegram to Dalziel says:—An address was sent to Prince Bismarck from a popular meeting held here on the occasion of his retirement from office, and in this address the question was put, "Why do you retire from the helm in these critical times?" Prince Bismarck replied, "I do not go voluntarily." This phrase has caused a deep impression here.

HERR RICHTER ON THE JUDENHETZE.

Herr Eugen Richter, the well-known party leader (says a Dalziel's despatch from Berlin), declares in his organ, the *Freisinnige Zeitung*, that the Judenhetze party, led by pastor Stoecker, alone of all parties looks into the future with hope and confidence. He adds: This group always appears to know when it is time to vanish from the political arena, and when the opportune moment has arrived to reappear on the scene.

AFTER THE CYCLONE AT LOUISVILLE.

The supply of water in Louisville (says a Dalziel's telegram) is running very low, and last night the city was entirely without any. The subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers by the cyclone amount to £9,600. The city itself has contributed £4,000 for the immediate aid of the distressed. Business has been resumed, and the town presents its ordinary aspect.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE BERLIN DELEGATES.

The sudden reappearance of Sir John Gorst and Sir Wm. Holdsworth in the House of Commons last night was a surprise to nobody more than to themselves. They expected to be detained for at least another fortnight. But the Emperor of Germany with the impatience of youth (says the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Mercury*) was determined to have the congress over before Easter, and so instructed Herr Berlepsch. There was no gainsaying him, and the congress did its work at a rate which would be described by English trades unionists as "racing." The English delegates did two good things. They kept the congress right on certain points in our own factory and mining Acts, and brought its decision into accord with English legislation; and they protested against the assumption that the earlier arrival of puberty among the southern nations justifies the employment of children at an earlier age than twelve. The latter protest was unavailing, the Spanish representative, a very model of courtesy, urging that he was himself an example of the difference between Northern and Southern races, "for," said he, "my father was born when my grandmother was only fourteen." There was no resisting that argument, notwithstanding its doubtful physiological value.

The most interesting study Sir John Gorst brings home with him (says the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Post*), is one of the German Emperor. This shrewd observer finds in his Imperial Majesty a man very much after the type of Lord Randolph Churchill. The two are, in truth, singularly alike in their hardihood of opinion, their audacity, their entire freedom from influences of veneration, and their resolution to go their own way, overriding all respectable and established influences whether they be those of Sir Stafford Northcote or Prince Bismarck.

THE CREWE MURDERERS,

The Home Secretary was appealed to yesterday afternoon by Mr. Kelly, M.P., on behalf of one of the counsel engaged in the defence of the Crewe murderers, to grant an interview to the solicitor for the prisoners. Mr. Matthews admitted that he granted a similar request in the case of Mrs. Maybrick, but stated that it was a most unusual course, and he declined to pursue it in the Crewe case. Any written statement, however, he would be glad to consider.

Mr. T. J. Hartshorn, of Highgate, presented on Monday afternoon to the Home Secretary his second batch of petitions, signed by 11,353 persons, praying for a mitigation of the death sentence. This makes a total of 24,997 persons signing this petition alone.

THE DISPOSITION OF THE CHARITY COMMISSION FUNDS

The Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, the Kyrle Society, and the Commons Preservation Society have just issued their statement of objections to the draft schemes prepared by the Charity Commissioners under the City of London Parochial Charities Act, 1883. These societies, like the London County Council and other bodies, disapprove of the governing body as arranged by the Commissioners, and also complain that after the trustees of the London parochial charities have provided for the maintenance of polytechnics and free libraries, the balance remaining will be so small as to preclude altogether the idea that they will ever be able in the future to further schemes for the securing of open spaces. The societies object to the establishment of libraries within the City, and think that the immediate endowment of polytechnics should have been limited to existing institutions urgently in want of funds. Moreover, the societies are of opinion that the fund left at the free disposal of the new board of trustees should be raised to at least £15,000, instead of, as at present, £3,000. The Charity Commissioners have replied to the societies, but are not disposed to meet their views in any way.

LAND RECLAMATION ON THE RIO GRANDE.

A Dalziel's telegram from Albuquerque says:—Operations will shortly commence for the reclaiming of the arid lands along the banks of the Rio Grande River. One company, owning a million acres, is about to construct a canal 600 miles long, its completion to occupy three years. This will entirely change the aspect of affairs in a large section of Mexico.

WHERE AN EXTRADITION LAW FELL SHORT.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York says:—Edmund Mark Lester, the celebrated criminal lawyer of the Austrian bar, who recently fled to this country with 600,000 fl. belonging to his clients, has just been released by the United States authorities. Great efforts were made to obtain Lester's extradition, he having been arrested in accordance with cabled instructions directly he landed. Detectives and lawyers were sent by the Austrian Government to give evidence and to argue the case, but it has been decided that the charges against Lester do not come within the terms of the extradition treaty between the two countries, and so the embezzling lawyer goes his way unmolested.

THE FRENCH FASTING WOMAN.

The woman Zélie Bourion, of Bourdeilles, still continues her long fast, and is watched by Dr. Lafon, the parish priest, and the mayor, aided by trustworthy persons. Her favourite drink is vinegar, and she is continually asking Dr. Lafon to bleed her. She says that this operation, so far from weakening her, gives her strength. Several enterprising showmen have written to ask her to exhibit herself; but their offers have been rejected.

OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.

The residuary legatees of the late Mr. Daniel Procter, recognizing the importance of pathological studies and the desirability of securing the fullest facilities for their prosecution by the future students of the Manchester Medical School, have decided to contribute the sum of £6,000 for the endowment of the pathological professorship, which will henceforth be associated with the late Mr. Procter's name.

FIRE AND EXPLOSION AT A WEST-END HOSPITAL.

An explosion, followed by a fire, occurred about half an hour before midnight last night at the Westminster Hospital of Medicine, Caxton-street, Westminster, of which Mr. H. B. Donkin is the Dean. Mr. W. C. Webber occupied the basement of the premises, and at the time mentioned he heard a loud explosion in the rooms above him. Rushing out, he found that the two back rooms on the ground floor, which were used as a chemistry laboratory, had been the scene of an explosion, that the premises were full of smoke, and that the rooms were on fire. A messenger was instantly despatched to the fire station in Francis-street, and on the engine arriving a standpipe was instantly set to work. It was some time, however, before the fire could be overcome, and then not until great damage had been caused. The explosion caused great excitement in the neighbourhood. How it originated is a mystery.

CHURCH NEWS.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man is again somewhat seriously indisposed.

The Bishop of Ripon, at a special ordination, has admitted to the diaconate the Rev. Caleb Love, late second minister of the Wolverhampton Trinity Wesleyan Circuit, and has licensed him to the curacy of St. John the Baptist, Wortley, Leeds.

The Bishop of Wakefield has received from an anonymous donor £5,000 for the benefit of the church in the parish of Heckmondwike. This makes a sum of £8,500 given in twelve months by persons having no connection with the parish for Church purposes.

The Rev. Charles Gore, the author of "Lux Mundi," is giving addresses daily to business men this week at the parish church of Liverpool.

LORD RANDOLPH AND THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

Replying to a correspondent in an East Anglian constituency, Lord Randolph Churchill has expressed his regret that he is unable to accept an invitation to address a meeting of Liberals on the Parnell Commission.

ALLEGED MURDER BY A MUTE.

A deaf mute named Samuel John M'Clure is in custody at Greyhill, county Armagh, charged with having attacked his father, a wealthy farmer, and inflicted such injuries as to cause his death

A DEGREE FOR LORD STANLEY OF PRESTON.

McGill University, Montreal, has conferred an honorary degree on the Governor-General, Lord Stanley of Preston.—*Dalziel.*

THE AMERICAN IMPOST ON STEEL RAILS.

A Central News telegram from New York says:—By the provisions of the Tariff Bill the impost on steel rails is to be reduced by about four dollars per ton. An *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. is to be placed on hides—a fact which excites the opposition and indignation of all the New England shoe manufacturers.

THE POLISH BABY MURDERER SENTENCED.

A Warsaw despatch by Dalziel says:—The woman baby-farmer, Stysinski, who is believed to have disposed of (according to the number of bodies identified) seventy-five babies during the last few years, has just been sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Her baby-farm, or rather grave-yard, became known to the police a month ago through her setting fire to her cottage, containing five little children, in order to obtain the amount of the insurance on her property. At the trial it was proved that not a single child which was entrusted to her care and entered her den ever left the house alive. It was also shown that she made two charges for taking care of children, fifteen roubles for allowing the baby to die in a few weeks and twenty for procuring its death within a day or two. She frequently threw the bodies of the children to her pigs, and boasted of the fattest pigs in the districts on account of the exceptionally good feed she provided for them. In spite of all the evidence, she could not be convicted of murder.

A MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. FIRTH.

At a meeting held at the National Liberal Club yesterday, after a eulogy of the late Mr. Firth by Lord Rosebery, it was resolved to commemorate his services to London by placing a marble bust of him in the chamber of the County Council, and, if possible, to endow a ward or bed in the Brompton Hospital in his name.

HAS EYRAUD DIED IN HOLLAND?

The Dutch police seem to think the body of a man who committed suicide last week by blowing out his brains on the bank of the Meuse, near Maestricht, is that of Eyraud. There was found on him a pocket-book containing a large number of newspaper cuttings concerning the Gouffé murder. The initials in the suicide's hat and on his pocket-handkerchief were those of Eyraud.

RUSSIAN LOTTERY LOANS.

The *Journal de St. Pétersburg* to-day contradicts the report that a new lottery loan is about to be issued. The *Journal* adds that the lottery Loans of 1864 and 1866 were permitted exceptionally, and that it is not intended to issue a new lottery loan in favour of the Agrarian Bank or for any other purpose.—*Reuter.*

THE CONDITION OF BRAZIL.

A despatch received from Rio de Janeiro (says a Paris Reuter's telegram) characterizes as completely unfounded the report that the Brazilian police had discovered a plot against the Provisional Government, and that the guilty parties had been arrested..

The same despatch states that yellow fever continues prevalent in Campinas

AN "ALIEN" BILL IN CANADA.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Ottawa says:—On the introduction in the Dominion House of Commons to-day of a bill excluding from the Civil Service those who had not resided five years in Canada, the Premier, Sir John Macdonald, declared that the British were not aliens but citizens of the Empire here equally as in England.

DEPARTURE OF THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

The King of the Belgians left the Bath Hotel, Bournemouth, yesterday afternoon, for Southampton, and there embarked, on board the Belgian Royal yacht *Princesse Josephine*, for Ostend.

EXPLOSION IN A MINE.—FOUR MEN KILLED.

A Central News telegram from New York says:—An explosion of blasting cartridges in a coal mine at Coalburg, Alabama, has caused the deaths of four convict labourers, and severe injuries to eight others.

AN M.P. MULCTED IN £700.

The action for £5,000 brought by Mr. A. H. Roberts, accountant, against Colonel Hill, M.P., for libel, concluded at Cardiff yesterday, the plaintiff being awarded £700 damages.

GUARDIANS WAYLAID AND ASSAULTED.

An extraordinary outrage was investigated at Tralee yesterday. Several men who were unsuccessful in an election at the board of guardians waylaid the chairman, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Garrett Fitzgerald, another guardian, on their way home. A fierce attack was made on both gentlemen, who took refuge in an outhouse and defended themselves with a pitchfork. Two of the accused were sentenced to one month and a third to fourteen days' imprisonment.

THE PRINCESS AS PIANIST.

The Princess Beatrice is well known to be an accomplished pianist, but she had not hitherto put her powers to so severe a test as on Friday, last week, when, at a private concert given before the Queen by the Windsor and Eton Amateur Orchestral Society, her Royal Highness played the first movement of Beethoven's concerto in E flat.

FRIGHTFUL FALL FROM A TELEPHONE POLE.

In Dublin yesterday afternoon while Wm. Nolan was engaged in fastening a telephone wire to a pole in Fleet-street the wire broke and he fell to the ground, a distance of about 40 ft. He was picked up dead.

A HEAVY PENSION LIST.

A Central News telegram from New York says the Senate has passed the Dependent Pension Bill, by which an expenditure of £12,000,000 annually for pensions is entailed upon the State.

GARRICK THEATRE.—ILLNESS OF MR. HARE.

A severe but, it is to be hoped, temporary attack of illness has obliged Mr. Hare to suspend the run of "A Pair of Spectacles" during the present week. Mr. Grundy's comedy was played on Saturday night to the largest audience the theatre has ever held.

THE ENLARGEMENT OF BREMEN HARBOUR.

The State (says a Dalziel despatch from Bremen) has just paid one and a half million marks for the lands necessary to enlarge the harbour so that the great ocean liners can pass into the harbour a few hours before and a few hours after flood-tide time. It is estimated that the cost of the work will be sixteen million marks, or ninety-one marks per capita of the Bremen population.

A LAKE'S NARROW ESCAPE.

The beautiful lake in Battersea Park has had a narrow escape. The Wandsworth and Clapham Union had marked it for their own purposes, and determined to levy a rate on it at a valuation of £190. However useful it may be to learn the exact rateable value of an ornamental piece of water, it is natural enough that the London County Council should have objected to the intended impost, especially as the expenses of cleaning and repairing the margin is so great as to leave no surplus on which the assessment might be levied. Sir Peter Edlin decided in favour of the Council, so that the lake need have no wrinkles written on its azure brow—any more than the ocean of which Byron sang.

A SURPRISE FOR A CONCERT AUDIENCE.

Mdme. Alboni has done a very graceful act at a concert given in Paris by M. Maton, at the Théâtre Duprez. Miss Sybil Sanderson had been announced to sing, but at the last moment a telegram was received from her stating her inability to appear. The bénéficiare was in despair, when Mdme. Alboni, who happened by mere accident to be among the audience, volunteered to come to the rescue. The greatest contralto of the century, the only remaining vocalist of the grand old school, sang the aria from "La Favorita" as no other living singer can render it. She was compelled, however, to sing seated. Seeing that Mdme. Alboni has completed her sixty-fourth year, the sweetness, resonance, and power of her incomparable voice were simply marvellous.

Mr. Henry Irving and a party of friends are visiting at Hollier's Hotel Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

The first official act of General Sickles, the new sheriff of New York, was to take Mr. Flack, his predecessor in office, into custody.—*Dalziel.*

The delegates from the Indian National Congress will visit this country in small parties during the year. The first three delegates are expected in London in about a week.

"The Middleman" scored a great success at Manchester last night. Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, the author, was present at the first performance, and Mr. C. W. Somerset's rendering of the part of Cyrus Blenkarn was greatly admired.

A "ladies' steeplechase" is being talked of at Melton Mowbray. The date is not yet fixed, but the majority of the fair equestrians will, it is understood, ride their own horses. There are already about half a dozen nominations.

VISIT OF THE TZAR TO A PRISON.

SIXTY MEN LIBERATED.

The Tzar and Tzarina paid a visit yesterday to the military prison in St. Petersburg, where one hundred and nineteen soldiers were kept in close confinement. The Tzar ordered the prisoners to be brought before him, when he questioned them as to the causes of their imprisonment, and, after conversing graciously with them, ordered sixty to be liberated, and the terms of imprisonment passed on the others to be reduced.

The liberation of Mdme. Tshebrikova was in consequence of the Tzar's express order. His Majesty wrote on the margin of her famous letter:—"This is very bitterly written; but, neverthelesss, the author can be left alone."

The Siberian papers just to hand in St. Petersburg report that several high officials in the mining districts in Chita and Verchniovdinsk have been imprisoned for peculation, bribery, corruption, and other offences. Among the prisoners are two owners of gold mines and a district physician.

DISAFFECTION IN ST. PETERSBURG.

A telegram from St. Petersburg, published in the *Daily Telegraph*, states:—A man who was chosen by lot to kill the Tzar has just committed suicide, leaving a letter exposing his motives and incriminating his fellow-conspirators. Numerous arrests are being made in St. Petersburg in consequence. Everything points to the probability that in the near future there will be an alarming increase of revolutionary symptoms rather than any subsidence, and the greatest anxiety is manifested in official circles.

THE QUEEN AT AIX-LES-BAINS.

Her Majesty rises at 8 A.M., takes a shower bath of Aix water, brought from the Etablissement, and breakfasts at nine. An outing follows, in which the carriage drive is varied by the appearance of the donkey "Jacquot" and his pannier at the foot of every steep incline. After lunch Lady Churchill and Miss Phipps read the English papers to the Queen, who then takes another drive. After a cup of tea, her Majesty receives the Minister in attendance, writes her private letters, which are taken off to London by a special courier. Dinner rarely begins before nine, and is quite a family meal. Sir Henry Ponsonby receives the French officers at his own table as the Queen's representative. An unoccupied cottage on the Queen's property is being hastily fitted up, so that her Majesty may be able to meet her friends and take a cup of tea there. The cottage is to be ready to-night. Her Majesty took tea in the open air last night. On one day next week the Queen and Princess Beatrice will pay a visit to Lady Somers, who resides at Grésy, a village with a celebrated waterfall, at about an hour's drive from Aix-les-Bains.

THE KAISER TO VISIT ENGLAND.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* hears on good authority that it is extremely likely that the German Emperor will pay a visit to this country in the course of the summer. Count Herbert Bismarck is expected in May. He will probably time his arrival so as to be able to be present at the Cowes regatta. The British delegates to the Berlin Conference have brought back the conviction that the Emperor desires not only to be on friendly, but on close and intimate relations with this country.

A Central News telegram from Paris says the *Figaro* states this morning, on the authority of a despatch from Berlin, that the Emperor William will have an interview with Queen Victoria at Darmstadt, after her Majesty departs from Aix-les-Bains.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND THE PSEUDO NOBLES.

The Emperor has ordered the Court Chamberlain to make a sifting inquiry into the claims of seven ladies recently presented at Court who bear noble titles, but whose parents belong only to the "haute finance," and not the nobility. Their noble husbands are said to have married them for the sake of their money. The Emperor, who is a great upholder of the principle of pedigree among the aristocracy, is opposed to mésalliances for pecuniary motives, and has declared that he prefers receiving honest civilians at Court to pseudo nobles. Four of the seven ladies have become countesses by their marriage, the others baronesses.—*Dalziel.*

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT IN HONG KONG.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught have arrived in Hong Kong from Colombo, and met with an enthusiastic reception from all classes of the inhabitants.—*Reuter.*

THE "DISAPPEARANCE" OF M. SAINT-SAENS.

It was reported in Paris last night, on the faith of a telegram published in the *Italia*, that M. Saint-Saëns has been living quietly at Venice without troubling himself in the slightest degree about the sensation to which his disappearance and prolonged absence gave rise in Paris.

A YOUNG LADY'S PUBLIC RECANTATION.

There has been a public recantation at Eastbourne. A young lady who has left the Church of Rome for the Church of England chose to make a stir over the business. Her recantation took place during the Church service, the vicar reading a special form of words, and the convert saying "I do" at the end of each sentence. When all else was over the young lady signed a document in the presence of witnesses. This was gravely deposited in the iron chest of the church.

A CONVENT DESTROYED BY FIRE.

A Milwaukee telegram to Dalziel reports that St. Joseph's Convent, a beautiful edifice on the outskirts of the city, was burnt to the ground yesterday afternoon. For a while it seemed as if the entire sisterhood were threatened with death, so rapid was the conflagration. The nuns stood shrieking at the upper windows, but were, one after another, rescued by the firemen. Three of the Sisters, however, were so hemmed in by the flames that they could not wait for the ladders, and had to jump. Two were caught on the mattresses placed beneath them, but a third, a beautiful young woman who had only taken her vows some months previously, fell with a crash on the pavement, and has not recovered consciousness since. She is fatally injured. In less than an hour nothing was left of St. Joseph's Convent but a few outhouses.

A BROOKLYN BRIDGE CABLE SNAPS.

One of the cables of Brooklyn Suspension Bridge suddenly snapped yesterday evening just as the greatest rush of homeward working people was taking place. The police at once stopped the traffic, and it took four hours before a second cable was placed in position. Meanwhile, some thousands of people were waiting supperless, the snow falling heavily all the time, apparently unwilling to cross the river by the ferry. No disorder took place. When the order was given that the bridge was ready, the crowd rushed across with loud cheering.—*Dalziel.*

THE DEFENCE OF THE SOLENT.

Preparations are being made at the west end of the Isle of Wight for the combined military and naval operations which are to take place in June next in the vicinity of the Needles. The operations are to be held with the view of testing the possibility of the Needles passage being forced by a fleet. About 4,000 troops under the command of General the Hon. Sir Leicester Smyth will be engaged, whilst the fleet employed will be commanded by Admiral Sir E. Commerell, V.C.

CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR SALARIES.

A Dalziel's telegram from Washington says:—The United States Court of Claims has decided that members of Congress can recover from the United States Treasury the amount of their salaries which were in the custody of Mr. Silcott, cashier in the office of Serjeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives. Silcott embezzled the funds and lost the money in betting on horse races, and some two months ago, to avoid arrest, decamped to Canada.

Mr. Bernard Quaritch, speaking of his son's tour in America with interesting old books to the value of £40,000, said, "They are interested, my son tells me. They come and look—fifty came to the exhibition in Boston the other day—but they do not buy. This morning," Mr. Quaritch added, "I had a telegram from America offering me £800 for Blake's drawings illustrating Milton's 'Comus.' But I have refused—a thousand pounds is my price."—*Manchester Examiner.*

To the quotation of Sir William Marriott's speech, as challenged by Mr. Sexton, is appended the following passage in the Journals of the House of Commons:—"Whereupon Mr. Speaker intervened, and declined to submit the case to the House as a question of privilege, inasmuch as the passages complained of did not relate to the action or conduct of any hon. member in this House, which were the limits within which privilege was restricted in cases like the present."

The magnificent centrepiece for the Queen's table, upon which Mr. Alfred Gilbert, A.R.A., has been engaged for two years past, is now nearly completed. Probably nothing so fine in the way of art silver work (says the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Mercury*) has been done since the days of Benvenuto Cellini. In its composition some 2,000 ozs. of silver have been employed It is difficult—indeed, almost impossible—to describe the richness of the design. It is fantastic throughout, containing countless figures of many kinds, and the whole is surmounted by a mermaid clasping a crystal ball. In the tail of the mermaid, as also in several of the minor figures, mother-of-pearl has been inlaid, and adds much to the general effect.

MR. GLADSTONE'S VOICE IN NEW YORK.

A New York telegram to Dalziel says:—There was a large attendance of prominent New Yorkers yesterday at the Lawyers' Club to hear Mr. Gladstone's voice speaking through the phonograph. General Sherman presided at the meeting, and Mr. Edison was present, and was warmly congratulated on the result of the experiment. The audience distinctly heard Mr. Gladstone's address to the American Co-operative Building and Loan Association. The attendance included Mr. Grover Cleveland, ex-President of the United States; ex-Governor Hamilton Fish; ex-Secretary of State and Senator Carl Schwarz; Mr. Joel Erhart, Collector of the Port of New York; Admiral Horace Porter, the Rev. Heber Newton, D.D., Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and Mr. Henry Villard, President of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The British Consul was Vice-president at the meeting.

THE AMERICAN REVENUE REDUCED BY £9,000,000.

A Washington despatch by Dalziel says:—The Tariff Bill has been presented to the House of Representatives by the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. McKindlay, in his report to the House, says that as framed this measure reduces the revenue by 45,000,000 dols.

THE ELECTION CONTEST AT WINDSOR.

Both parties were early at work to-day. The Liberal canvass is completed in Eton and Park wards, and partly so in Castle ward and the two polling districts of Clewer. In the last named, where the late member held a large amount of property, Mr. Grenfell is energetically looking up doubtful voters; in fact, canvassing in Clewer is being most persistently kept up, Liberals evidently believing it to be the key to the position. Mr. Vernon Harcourt, Lady Stevenson, Mr. Shipman, the Liberal candidate for Gravesend, and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby are helping to-day. Mr. Grenfell's popularity among at least a very large section of the constituency was shown by his reception last night, and he expressed great satisfaction at the canvass returns in some quarters where feeling has hitherto been found antagonistic to a Liberal candidate.

EVANGELIZING THE FRENCH.

The McCall Mission to the French people held its annual meeting at Exeter Hall last night. Commencing in a very small way, with just two workers, Mr. McCall and his wife, eighteen years ago, it has grown so large that an expenditure of £19,000 a year is now requisite to keep it going. It has 129 stations scattered throughout France, and 60 persons are continually engaged in the work. Last night the pioneer of English mission work in Paris had quite a reception when he rose to tell his audience how the work had progressed. He said he thought the work done was proof that the French were not so frivolous as was generally supposed. Another popular notion he tried to dispel had reference to the number of freethinkers in the country. The name, he said, simply meant one who had broken away from superstition, and in illustration of his theory he told the story of a Socialistic funeral, at which a member of the "Société McCall" was entreated to deliver a short address upon the story of Jesus Christ. Pastor Theodore Monod, of Paris, was also hopeful concerning the state of Paris. His speech might almost be summed up in the words of a great French critic, whom he quoted, that intellectual curiosity was not sufficient for the Frenchmen of to-day. They needed to come back to the simplicity of the Sermon on the Mount. The working classes were disgusted, added M. Monod, with that form of immorality with which the country was flooded, and a change, either in the shape of increased enthusiasm for the Roman Catholic religion, or in a large addition to the number of Protestant converts, could be looked forward to with confidence. By the admission of one of their own papers, he said the Parisians had sunk so low that they must rise again. An enthusiastic eulogy of Mr. McCall's work from the lips of that missionary of missions, Dr. Pierson, followed. It was time, he said, that men broke away from all denominations. The gap between the Church and common people was widening every day, and their places of worship were but stately marble mausoleums.

HOW THE DOCKERS ARE GETTING ALONG.

At the quarterly delegate meeting of the Dockers' Union, held at Toynbee Hall last night, there was a spirit of much cheerfulness. It was reported that at the end of last year the membership stood at 32,000 and the funds in hand amounted to £10,000. Since then the membership had increased to 49,500. Mr. T. Mann, the president of the Union, gave a stirring address. As a result of a suggestion of their Executive, things, he said, were then in train for a Conciliation Committee, to be composed of dock labourers and dock and wharf directors. He had received a letter from Mr. Baily on behalf of the Dock and Wharfingers' Association, promising their co-operation in the matter. Mr. Mann, while giving the Chamber of Commerce credit for good intentions, expressed the opinion that their machinery of conciliation and arbitration would prove futile in the absence of thorough organization of the employers and of the men, and superfluous where such organization existed, as both parties could then adjust their differences amongst themselves. Mr. B. Tillett gave a cheerful account of the progress of the Union in other ports, and stated that they had "annexed the Bristol Channel." It was resolved to "lend" £1,000 to the Liverpool strikers.

THE PRICE OF PLOVERS' EGGS.

"Plovers' eggs are in." Such was the cry of the gourmet as he gazed into the shop fronts of the West-end poulterers at the end of last week. On Friday the precious delicacies provided by the peewit were 2*s.* apiece, though on Saturday they were quoted at half that amount. But even these high prices could scarcely have excused the remark of a well-known Irish lady, celebrated for her fine breeds of poultry. "Henceforth," she announced to an assemblage of friends, "I intend to give up cochins and Spanish, and take to lapwings. I've just written to my poultry-keeper and told him to stock the yard at once."

THE SULTAN AND "MAHOMET" ON THE STAGE.

The Sultan has warmly thanked the French Government, through its Constantinople Ambassador, for having forbidden the performance of M. de Bornier's "Mahomet" at the Français or any other French theatre. The Sultan thinks the measure not only a courtesy to himself, but wise from a French standpoint, as the Mussulman subjects of France would have felt hurt at such a performance. Now it is clear that when the Sultan, through his Ambassador, requested the prohibition, no refusal could be given, for this would have been made a handle of by those who work up Mussulman fanaticism. A wise diplomatist, however, would have prevented such a request from being preferred, and would therefore have escaped the necessity of replying. Instead of this the Turkish Ambassador was allowed to raise the question, and M. de Bornier is the victim of the clumsiness of French rulers.

A BANKRUPT PRINCE.

Prince George Victor, reigning Prince of Waldeck Pyrmont, has issued a decree placing his cousin, Prince Albert, under guardianship of public functionaries of the principality on the ground of his being a spendthrift and having wasted his fortune. Prince Albert maintains that the reigning Prince is acting in this matter without giving him a hearing. He has been made bankrupt by some French creditors, but he declares that this disgrace might have been avoided by drawing upon his wife's fortune. The bankruptcy of the Prince has created a feeling of painful concern among the Royal Princes and Ducal families of Germany.—*Dalziel.*

The Queen of Greece is expected to arrive at St. Petersburg to-morrow.—*Reuter.*

This week Mr. Charles Coborn will conclude his engagement of nearly two and a half years at the London Pavilion Music Hall.

Archdeacon Farrar is suffering from overwork, and, on the advice of his physician, will leave England for Italy shortly after Easter.

The financial statement of the U.P. Church was issued in Edinburgh yesterday. During the year the receipts were £83,142, as against £96,307 in the previous twelvemonth. It is pointed out that the falling off is in donations and legacies.

The address to Mr. T. B. Potter, M.P., from the members of the Cobden Club, will be presented by Mr. Gladstone at the gathering to be held at the National Liberal Club on April 30. Mr. Potter founded the Cobden Club in 1866.

"America in London" is the title of the new picture by M. Phillippoteaux, representing a Southern cotton field in full work, and will be shown soon after Easter Monday with "Niagara in London" (now in its third year). It is 18 ft. by 10 ft.

Mr. A. J. Mundella, M.P., in opening an exhibition of drawings yesterday in connection with the Drawing Society of Great Britain and Ireland, held at Conduit-street, Regent-street, expressed the opinion that drawing should be taught to the boys and girls in all the elementary schools.

John Dashwood, master of the Edenbridge Harriers, was fined £6 at Godstone, Surrey, yesterday, for assaulting a farmer named Wicking and his nephew. Defendant severely thrashed Mr. Wicking because he attempted to stop the progress of the hunt across his farm.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

MARKETS INACTIVE.—SMALL BUSINESS.—VARIATIONS SLIGHT. NO FEATURE.

The discount rate in the open market has been weakened by the allotment of Treasury Bills yesterday, and the quotation for three months' bank paper is now little more than 2⅜ per cent. Money is not so much wanted now that the end of the quarter requirements have been satisfied, and the general charge for short loans is about 3¼ to 3½ per cent. The German demand for gold in the open market continues, but it is not expected that much, if any, will be withdrawn from the Bank of England for that quarter.

Scarcely anything in the way of new business is being effected on the Stock Exchange, and markets generally are apparently settling down for the holidays. The movements in prices are slight, and there is hardly anything calling for special attention. Consols, in which the settlement is now in progress, are quiet and unaltered, while in the Home Railway market there is nothing doing, and quotations are practically unaltered. In the Foreign department several descriptions are now quoted ex the dividend, but the tone is firm for European issues. American Railways are almost lifeless, and the changes are insignificant. The New Jersey Central has declared a dividend of 1½ per cent., payable May 1. Advices from Philadelphia state that the Philadelphia and Reading has made all arrangements for the payment of the interest on the rentals maturing to-day. Trunks are weak on the revenue statement, and Mexican Railway issues have given way on the traffic take of £15,900. South African gold shares are steady to firm.

The revenue statement of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada for the month of February shows an increase in gross receipts of £13,461, in working expenses of £8,012, and in net profit of £5,449; that of the Chicago and Grand Trunk an increase in gross receipts of £6,870, in working expenses of £5,321, and in net profit of £1,549; and that of the Detroit Grand Haven an increase in gross receipts of £2,146, in working expenses of £1,546, and in net profit of £600.

Subscriptions are invited for 84,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, being a portion of the capital of the Liberian Government Concessions and Exploration Company (Limited), which is divided into 107,000 Ordinary and 3,000 Deferred Shares of £1 each. According to the prospectus, the company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing an india-rubber concession granted by the Government of the Republic of Liberia, West Coast of Africa, for the sole right of collecting the india-rubber grown on all the Government lands and forests, and the sole right of exporting all india-rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia, such concession further granting the concessionaires 2,000 acres of land, to be selected by them, and also other privileges.

The first batch of letters of allotment in the General Service Co-operative Stores (Limited) has been posted.

Letters of allotment in the Montgomeryshire Brewing Company (Limited) have been posted.

The list of applications for shares and debentures of the Springfield Breweries (Limited) will close to-day, for both town and country.

Messrs. Samuel B. Hale and Co., Buenos Ayres, have sent the following telegram to Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co.:—The Government of the Province of Buenos Ayres has rejected all tenders for the purchase of the Western Railway of Buenos Ayres. New tenders will be called for, the date fixed being August 14 next. The Argentine Government has re-established the guarantee of the East Argentine Railway, which had been temporarily suspended in consequence of some question with the representative there.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a moderate demand. Probable sales 7,000 or 8,000. Futures are partially half a point higher.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved:* North British Deferred ⅛. *Receded:* Sheffield Deferred ¼, Chatham Ordinary, Caledonian, and North British Preferred ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced:* Greek 1881 and Monopoly ¼, Hungarian Gold and Portuguese ⅛, Egyptian Unified 1-16, and Peruvian Five and Six per Cents. 1-16 each. *Declined:* Egyptian Daira ⅛, Ecuador ¼, and Italian 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Risen*: Louisville and Nashville, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Union Pacific shares ¼ each. *Fallen:* Lake Shore and Wabash Preference ¼, Ontario shares and Norfolk and Western Preference ⅛ each.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Lower:* Mexican Ordinary ⅜, the First and Second Preference ¼, Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ⅜, Third Preference and Guaranteed ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, and Nitrate shares ¼.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved:* De Beers and City and Suburban ⅜, Jumpers, South African Exploration, and Oceana Land ¼, San Pablo ¼, and Eastman's ⅛ *Receded*: Suez Canal ¼, and Rio Tinto 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols (2¾) Money	97⅜	½
Do. Account	97⅜	½
Do. 1905	99	½
New 2½ per Cents.	94½	5
Local Loans Stock	102⅜	⅝
India 3½ per Cents.	107¼	¾
Do. 4½ p. c. Ru	71¼	2
Egyptian Guar.	100	1
Bk. of England St.	330	3 xd
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½ p. c	111½	12
Do. 3 p. ct. Scrip	101¾	2¼
Birmgham 3½ p. c	103½	10½
Leeds 4 per cent.	115	17
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112	½
Manchester 4 p. c.	125	8
COLONIAL SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	95½	6½
Cape 4 p c Cons Ins	110	11
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	111	13
Mauritius 4 p c Ins.	107	8
Natal 4 p. c. C193"	109½	10½
N.S Wales Ins 1933	112	14
" 3½ 1924	102	3
NewZlnd 4 p. c. Cons.	103½	9½
Queenslnd 4 p. c. Ins.	109½	10½
S. Austln. 4 p. c. Reg.	108½	9½
Victoria 4 p. c. of 1885	111½	12½
W. Austrlia 4 p. c. Ins.	108	10
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentn 4½ p. c. 1888	75½	6½
Do. 3½ p. c. Extn.	60	1 xd
Do. Cedulas A	39	40
Do. " B	38½	9
Austrian Gold	93	5
" Silver	73	5
Brazilian 4½ 1888	84½	5 xd
Do. 1889 (fully pd)	74¾	5¼ xd
Do. " (partly pd)	13	11 dis
B. Ayres 6 p. c. 1882	95	7 xd
" Cedulas "I	31½	2½
" " "J	30¼	¾
Bulgarian	89½	9½
Chilian 4½ pc. 1882	102	4
Costa Rica A	89	91
" " B	85	7
Ecuador, New	23¾	4¼
Egypt. State Dom.	104	½
Do. Unified	94¼	½
Egypt. Preference	105	½
Do. Daira Sanieh	84	¼
French 3 p. c. Rentes	88	½
Do. 4½ p. c. Rentes	104¾	5¼
Greek 5 p. c. 1881-4	89½	90
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	74	½
Hung. Gold Rentes	85⅞	6⅛
Italian	91¼	½
Mexican 6 p. c. 1888	93½	4 xd
Peruvian 5 p. c. 1872	16⅝	¾
Do. 6 p. c.	19¾	⅞
Portuguese	63⅝	⅞
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	93½	4 xd
Spanish 4 p. c.	72	⅛ xd
Turkish, 1854	103	5
Conv. A	39¾	40¼
Do. B	21⅝	⅞
Do. D	17⅞	18
4½ p. c. 1871	95¼	¾
5 p. c. Defence	102½	3
5 p. c. Priority	96	8
Uruguay Unified	73¾	4¼
Do. 6 p. c. 1888	85¾	6¼
Virginia Funded	45	6
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105	6
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary	156	8
Do. A	153⅛	⅜
Chatham Ordinary	23¼	½
Do. Preference	109	½
Caledonian	118⅝	⅞
Great Eastern	85¾	6
Great Northern	121½	2½
Do. A	101½	2½

Great Western	162⅛	⅜
Hull and Barnsley	36½	7
Lanc. and York.	120½	1½
North Western	177⅛	⅜
South Western	154	5
Manch. and Sheff.	86	8
Do. A	44¾	5
Metro. Consolidated	75½	6
Do. District	30	½
Midland	143⅛	⅜
North Brit. Pref.	77¼	¾ xd
Do. Def.	59½	¾ xd
North Eastern	165⅝	⅞
North Stafford	111	13
South Eastern	129	31
Do. Deferred	103½	¾
Taff Vale	74	5
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	74	¼
Cen. Pacific Shares	31⅞	2⅛
Chic. Mil. and St. P.	69⅞	70⅛
Denver & R. Grande	14¾	15¼
Do. Preference	46¼	¾
Illinois Shares	117	18
Lake Shore	100½	10
Louis & Nash	80⅛	⅜
Miss. Kan. & Texas	9½	10
N. Y. Central Shares	109¼	¾ xd
New York Ontario	18⅜	⅝
N. Y. Erie Shares	24¾	5
Do. Second Mort.	102	½
Norfolk & West. Pref	61¾	2
N. Y., P. & O. 1st M	33	¼
North Pacific Pref.	75¼	¾
Ohio & Mississippi	19¾	20¼
Pennsylvania Sh.	54¾	5¼
Phil & Read Sh.	20	½
Union Pacific Sh	64	½
Wabash Preferred	30½	1
Do. Gen. Mort.	49	50
Grand Trunk Ord.	10⅜	⅝
Do. First Pref.	71½	2
Do. Second Pref.	48½	9
Do. Third Pref.	25½	¾
Do. Guaranted	77¼	¾
Mexican Ordinary	36⅝	⅞
Do. First Pref.	118½	19
Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	72¾	3¼
Mexican Central	72¾	3¼
Mexican National	53½	4½
Lombardo-Venetian	10⅞	11⅛
Nitrate Railway	13¾	14¼
Taltal	4½	5
B. Ayres & Rosario	163	6
Do. Great Southern	179	82
Central Argentine	145	8
S. Paulo (Braz.)	44	6
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	14½	15½
City Bank	22½	3½
Colonial	49	51
Consolidated Bank	8½	9
Imperial	19½	20½
Imperial Ottoman	11⅜	½
London and County	88	9
Lloyds	27½	8½
Lon. and Westmtr.	70	1
London Joint Stock	40	1
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	56½	7½
Provincial of Ireland	24	5
Sturd. Bk. of S. A	52	3
Union of London	41½	2⅛
National Discount	11¼	¾
TRUSTS.		
Fn. & Cl. Gov. Df.	135	8
Gov. Stk. Invst. Df.	110	14
Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	9¾	10¼
Stock Conversion	1½	¾
South African Gold	1⅝	⅞
Trus., Ex., & Sec.	6	½
MINING & LAND.		
Indian Con. Gold	1/6	2/0
Mysore Gold	6¼	½

Ooregum Gold	2¼	½
Cape Copper	3⅝	½ xd
Namaqua	1¾	2
Mason & Barry	6¼	½
Rio Tinto	15⅞	16
Tharsis	4½	¾
Montana	1 1/16	⅛
De Beers	16¾	⅞
Griqualand West	5⅜	⅞
New Jagersfontein	10	½
City and Suburban	5	¼
Jumper's Gold	4⅞	5⅛
Jubilee	4½	¾
Robinson	2⅝	⅞
Salisbury	4½	¾
Sutherland Reef	3¼	¾
S. Afcn. Explorata	18½	19
Do. New	1½	⅝ pm
G. F. of Sth. Africa	3⅝	¾
Exploring Co.	14	16
Oceana Land	7¼	½
Southern Land	1	¼
Transvaal Land	⅜	⅝ pm
TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE		
Anglo-American	49	50
Do. Preferred	83	4
Brazilian Submarine	12½	¾ xd
Direct United States	10⅛	⅜
Eastern	14	¼
Do. Extension	14	¼
Globe Teleg. Trust	8½	¾
National Telephone	5	¼
OMNIBUS AND TRAM		
Lon. Gen. Om.	180	90
London Road Car	5¼	¾
London Street	11¾	12¼
London Tramways	14¾	15¼
North Metropolitan	18½	19½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterwks.	260	5
East London	209	14
Grand Junction	122	6
Kent	271	6
Lambeth	251	8
New River, New	360	5
Sthwrk & V'xhall	160	5
Tarapaca	7¼	¾
West Middlesex	260	5
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT		
Gaslight & Coke A	219	22
Imp. Continental	217	22
South Metropolitan	280	5
Do. B	225	30
Do. C	250	40
London Electric	2½	3
Metrpltan Electric	5⅝	⅞
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp's	69	71
Bell's Asbestos	11⅛	⅜
Guinness and Co.	341	4
Hotchkiss	5¼	½
Maxim-Nordenfelt	1⅞	2⅛
Bryant and May	13⅜	⅝
Eastman's Ord	16¼	½
Elmore's Copper, &c	5¼	⅝
Spratt's Patent	7⅜	⅝
Liverpool Nitrate	11	13
Colorado Nitrate	3	⅜
Primitiva Nitrate	10¾	11¼
Rosario	2½	3⅛
San Pablo	3¼	¾
San Jorge	4¾	5¼
San Donato	2½	3
Tamarugal	1¾	2¼
Salt Union Shares	11¼	½
P. and O. Steam Def.	196	200
Royal Mail Steam	69	72
Hudson's Bay	19¾	20
Suez Canal	91¼	¾
E. & W. India Docks	16	18
Lon. & St. K. Dock	32	4

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

TUESDAY MORNING.

So the Tzar has let off the audacious lady who dared to send him a sort of open letter of Junius. He sadly deprecates its violence, but magnanimously forbears to wreak his vengeance. She will not, then, be "secretly conducted" to Siberia.

⁂

I was talking to Stepniak the other day, when he expressed the opinion that Mdme. Tshebrikova would not be sent to Siberia. "There has been too much public interest in her case," said he. Stepniak has a great round Russian face, strong, conspiratorial, set in a shock of dark hair, and lit up by dark brown eyes. He agrees that the present Tzar is in himself a benevolent and well-intentioned man. As for us in England, Stepniak cannot for the life of him make out what more we want than we have got. If only they had a thousandth part of our liberty in Russia, the wildest dreams of the Nihilist would be fulfilled.

⁂

The sort of thing that Mdme. Tshebrikova has happily escaped may be gathered from a brief paper by Stepniak in the *New Review*. In Ireland pretty nearly every man worth his salt has been to gaol. But then they get out again in time to enjoy the fruits of their sufferings in the respect of their sympathetic countrymen. They do not return after years of exile crushed and broken by cold and want and hunger, prematurely bent and blinking and decrepit at forty, like the Zalessky whose case is cited by Stepniak. Exile to the Arctic Zone is a development of the Siberian system which he lays at the door of the present Tzar. Fancy living in penal settlements in lat. 63 deg. 45 min., and lat. 67 deg. 34 min. without a book, a paper, or any comfort of life, where the average temperature for the year is only one degree above zero (about the temperature of our coldest day this winter), and for the three months of eternal night 53 deg. Fahr. And in the brief summer the mosquitoes are a plague worse than the frost-bites of the season of gloom—insomuch that the wretched exiles (many of them there only on *suspicion of entertaining dangerous opinions*) are reduced to sitting half-choked and half-blinded in the most pungent smoke.

⁂

In the personal aspect which has pretty well swallowed up any other in the daily cross-fire in the *Daily Telegraph*, Mr. Forwood's sur-rejoinder to Lord Randolph is not unamusing. "Personal allusions," "overstepping parliamentary usage," "absolute ignorance of the 'unimpeachable' authority," or else he "deliberately practised on Lord Randolph's credulity"—these are its main lines of attack. As the street boy used to put it, "Go it, ye cripples; wooden legs (or unparliamentary epithets) are cheap!"

⁂

About every other week an inquiry comes to the *Pall Mall Gazette* office from some quarter of the globe as to the proper pronunciation of the journal's name. Is it *Pal Mal*, we are asked, or *Paul Maul*, or *Pell Mell*? At Athens, we are glad to see, they do not need to be told. When the *Ephemeris* of that city does us the honour to quote from us it says "κατὰ τὴν Πὲλ-Μελ" so and so.

⁂

A good deal of gossip is taking place about the experiment of women barbers in Chancery-lane, by no means the first instance in London; but, a correspondent says, "nearly thirty years ago there was a young girl at Buckingham who shaved her father's customers when his rheumatism prevented him holding the razor, a girl of unexceptionable character, who had a light hand, and was much sought after by the young men of the neighbourhood, who, while sympathizing with the father's rheumatics, were not sorry for its immediate results." So it appears that to Buckinghamshire, whose inspiring air, Mr. Disraeli said, when one passed the Coln, dispelled the fogs of London, belongs the recognition of woman's mission in the handling of the razor.

⁂

Mr. George Grossmith was "at home" yesterday afternoon, and so was the engine, which was brought out for a breather. Probably every one has heard of "Gee-gee's" steam "gee-gee," which stands about half as high as himself, goes like the Flying Dutchman, has a whistle like Mrs. Shaw, and you should just see it reverse. Mr. Grossmith picked the model up on one of his expeditions, and installed it in the Grossmith mansion. If you hear that the "Dorset-square Underground Railway" is about to be converted into a Limited Liability, wire to your broker at once.

⁂

A new bi-monthly magazine, entitled *British Sportsmen*, will make its appearance during this month, under the editorship of Mr. G. M. Kelson, who is well known in the sporting world. Each number will contain photographs of two noted sportsmen, accompanied by brief biographical sketches. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Lord Coventry will form subjects for the first number, and among other members of the nobility to appear are the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Harris, the Duke of Westminster, Lord Ormonde, the Duke of Roxburghe, and many more. A feature of the paper will be its "supplements," written by sportsmen who are masters of their subject and whose opinions consequently carry weight. Short news paragraphs, either signed or anonymous, will also be contributed by the captains of this or that famous team or crew, while some space will be given up to notices of books on sport and to accounts of new sporting inventions. The editorial offices of the *British Sportsmen* are at 12, Old Bond-street.

⁂

Yes, there can be no doubt of it any longer, the modern world has decided that marriage is a failure. The latest indication of the melancholy fact is a society which has been formed among the younger Eton masters. This is nothing more nor less than an Insurance Society against Matrimony. You pay your premiums, insuring yourself for such and such a sum against the unforeseen accident of marriage; and if by the visitation of fate that accident does indeed lay you low, your friends pay over to you, not an array of wedding presents, but simply the policy-money to which you are entitled. Of course, if you expose yourself to special risks a very high premium is exacted: for instance, a man who wilfully attends tennis tournaments, or wantonly goes mountaineering with a lady, is accepted only at special and almost prohibitive rates. It may be presumed that such an act as the concealment of a quasi-engagement would (on the well-known principle laid down in "Carter *v.* Boehm") vitiate the insurance altogether. The important thing to notice is that the whole idea is founded on the fact that marriage is a calamity, and one which no man by his own act would ever sustain.

⁂

But here again a nice question arises as to connivance on the part of the victim in his own fate—a sort of suicide, in fact, such as an elopement. There would, undoubtedly, be great difficulty in getting the money in cases where a proposal had been deliberately made in cold blood, unless the plea of temporary insanity were set up. But it would be interesting to learn what degree of encouragement from the lady is specified in the society's conditions. In Leap Year, of course, no bonuses would be expected. It is said that there is some idea of extending the company's activities to include young spinsters, who will be required on application for a policy to enclose a photograph to enable the directors to fix the scale of premium.

⁂

"In your sympathetic notes on the death of Dr. Schiller Szinessy," writes a correspondent from Cambridge, "you did not give the great romance of the exiled Rabbi's life. That he had fought for Hungary, and had been wounded, was to him a distinction only second to his pre-eminence in the crabbed lore of Rabbinical literature. The story runs thus: Schiller Szinessy was set to blow up a certain bridge. He was caught red-handed by the Austrians, clapped into gaol, and would have been executed. But a friend somehow smuggled him out, and got him conveyed across the frontier in a cart, where he lay *perdu*, as many great men had done before him, covered up with a heap of straw. He was suffering from a wound all the time, it seems, and used to aver that, after being insensible all through the journey, he was shipped insensible to England. To this feature of the story his friends were the more inclined to lend full credence, in that they felt that in any other condition the refugee would surely have betrayed his presence every ten minutes or so. He was a most worthy, learned, and remarkable old gentleman. Cambridge is sensibly the less venerable by the amount of his loss."

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month), on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE "FRIENDS OF RUSSIAN FREEDOM."

(BY A "FRIEND.")

The "Friends of Russian Freedom" met last evening in an upper chamber in Craven-street. The articles of Mr. George Kennan in the *Century*, and the messages appearing in the daily press, have directed additional attention to Russian abuses, and inspired the organization of the "Friends of Russian Freedom." On the committee of the movement are such men as Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Stuart, Mr. J. E. Ellis, Mr. Burt, Mr. Rowntree, Mr. Pease, and Mr. Fletcher Moulton. Yesterday Dr. Spence Watson had called a meeting, and to the little gathering he explained his reasons for doing so. The alleviation of the sufferings of the Siberian exiles was, he said, a comparatively small thing. What was wanted was the removal of the causes which led to political "crime;" and this was best effected by shedding abroad the light of popular knowledge upon the dark places of Russian administration. They had been asked to join an international protestant league, but he favoured an English Committee for England. Wherefore he proposed that a magazine should be published—monthly if funds would allow—containing authentic information regarding not simply Siberian, but distinctly Russian, proceedings. Karl Blind spoke of the necessity for such a step, and read a protest which he recommended should be immediately adopted and proclaimed. Then the exiled revolutionist who is best known by his *nom de guerre* of "Stepniak" gave a little address. Stepniak dwelt on the immense weight that English opinion and English publications had in Russia—with the students, for instance—and on the necessity of expressing that opinion with no uncertain sound. He argued the need for organization from the dangers which surround Russians who pour out their sad stories into the sympathizing ears of foreigners. A gentleman present pleaded that the Russian officials erred in ignorance. Stepniak replied that ignorance was practically impossible; that however righteous the departmental heads might be, they dared not—for fear of a penalty of fifteen years' penal servitude—alter or modify the decrees of the Tzar; and that the Tzar himself, who signed the sentences, should be held primarily responsible for the "outrages on humanity." Some one else asked if no Conservatives had been approached on the subject. Dr. Watson said that several had subscribed—and at least one prominent "Unionist"—but one and all had declined to act; and Mr. James Beale told the same tale, having written with a fine disregard for postage stamps to hosts of gentlemen of light and leading, from Lord Randolph downwards, asking them to allow themselves to be enrolled among the "Friends." Mr. Beale indulged in some reminiscences, remarking on the *Times'* present attitude as compared with its treatment of the Hungarian patriots of forty years ago. Mr. Edmund Gosse suggested that the wrongs of Finland should not be forgotten in the sensations of Siberia. What needed watching more perhaps than personal outrages were the growing restrictions of the liberty of the subject. Mr. Percy Bunting and Mr. Fisher Unwin also spoke, and it was decided to refer the protest to a committee. The magazine that is to accomplish so much will make its first appearance next month.

CATHOLICS AND THE CONVERSION OF ENGLAND.

A correspondent writes:—Many of your readers will remember the interview which took place at the close of last year between your Special Commissioner and Cardinal Parocchi. "Hostile to England?" the Cardinal is reported to have said. "There is no country that is so near my heart. Is it not because of my devotion to England that I venerate so much the memory of Gregory the Great? for it was to him that we owe the conversion of that country." This same Cardinal has just caused to be canonically erected in the Eternal City the "Guild of Our Lady of Ransom," the main object of which is the conversion of England to its ancient Faith. The following is a copy of the decree:—

> Lucidus Maria Parocchi, by Divine Mercy Bishop of Albans, Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church, Vicar-General of his Holiness our Lord the Pope:
>
> We, by our ordinary power, erect and declare to be canonically erected the confraternity which, under the patronage of the Most Blessed Virgin of Ransom, and of St. Gregory the Pope, and the Blessed English Martyrs, has for its end to promote the conversion of England, and of apostates and those in danger of apostasy; also the relief of the souls in Purgatory, especially those who in this life have no Catholic relations, or who at the time of the Protestant Reformation were deprived of the prayers for which they had made provision: and we approve the constitution of the said confraternity.
>
> Given at the House of the Vicariate, Feb. 28, 1890.

The Guild was inaugurated about two years ago by a few enthusiastic convert priests and laymen, Father Philip Fletcher, of Uckfield, Sussex, being the leading spirit, and already numbers 12,000 members, called "Ransomers," divided into three classes:—(1) White Cross Ransomers—priests who say Mass at least once a year for the intentions of the Guild; (2) Red Cross Ransomers—those who *work* for the Guild; (3) Blue Cross Ransomers—those who *pray* for the intentions of the Guild. September 3 of this year is the 1,300th anniversary of St. Gregory the Great's accession to the See of St. Peter (590), and a committee is arranging for the due celebration of the occasion.

HARROW SCHOOL.

The result of the examination for scholarships and prizes was announced on Saturday. For the Classical Scholarships the following boys were selected:—F. C. N. Hicks, already Anderson Scholar; L. C. M. S. Amery, recommended for the Neeld Scholarship; F. Storr, already Botfield Scholar, and G. V. Bull, recommended for the Sayer Scholarship. W. D. Bushell, already Clayton Scholar, was recommended for the Roundell Modern Scholarship. The Fifth Form Scholarship was awarded to B. Borradaile.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT ON ART.

Last evening Mr. Holman Hunt delivered an address in connection with the Drawing Society of Great Britain and Ireland on "The proper mode of study and exercise in art." Mr. Holman Hunt, in the course of his address, said every object extended itself to a certain shape, which the prehistoric man when drawing on the flat surface of a horn represented with an outline, and which the greatest artists of modern days also defined with a firm line. There was a rule which all draughtsmen ought to know, and which he had never seen printed or laid down: it was that in the animal creation there were no true concave lines—that all the forms were convex. They ought also to be on their guard against the vanity of supposing that Brobdingnagian proportions and sketches were a sign of grand style. Many students encouraged the habit of drawing everything larger than the original, and he remembered that when he did so he used to be very often complimented upon it, because he was told it was a sign of grandeur of style. That was wrong; it mistrained the eye, and the object was to train the eye. Whatever their profession might become, the power to draw should be a great gain, and he congratulated the young on being born in an age when attention was turned to that advantage. He had been asked to furnish some of his own early drawings for the inspection of the pupils. One of the earliest he had sent was a drawing on cardboard in opaque colours of a group of still life, made up of articles such as he was able to place upon his desk at the office where he was engaged, at the age of twelve and a half years, in the dignified profession of a clerk. He had sent that because it illustrated the perseverance exercised early in his pursuit under adverse conditions. The profession had now become a very fashionable one, and poor and rich alike who had no real passion for art had become artists. Art was a pure and holy inspiration; it might treat of boisterous humour, of buffoonery, of all the lighter moods of life, as Shakspeare did, as well as the graver moods, and for the artist to work for the true ends of art he must in this day care little for the applause of fashion; he must look far beyond. When he heard that such and such a master was in universal esteem, that he was a favourite of fortune, the report must not tempt the youth to turn out of his path to become a follower. The true test for the young student was not so much what he succeeded in bringing to perfection, but that he worked without ceasing in every hour of the day that his body gave him strength to work in.

The Lord Chief Justice and Lady Coleridge go for a tour in Holland during the Easter holidays.

Lord Rosebery left London for Edinburgh this evening to preside at the first house dining of the Scottish Liberal Club in their new club-house.

Miss Fanny Davies leaves London this week for Florence, where she will give a pianoforte recital, and perhaps arrange for a series to follow in other Italian towns.

It is considered very doubtful, after all, whether Major Isaacs, M.P., will continue to represent Walworth at Westminster. Mr. R. C. Richards, who twice unsuccessfully crossed swords with Mr. Bradlaugh at Northampton, is freely mentioned, it is reported, as the future Conservative candidate.

The winner of the Cobden Club prize of £50 for the best essay on "The comparative advantages to production of tenancy in any of its various forms and cultivating ownership" is Mr. John Watson, M.A., of Glasgow. Ten essays were sent in competition.

The committee of the Reform Club (it is reported) have for the present suspended all elections for membership. It was feared that the rejection of Professor Hopkinson the other day would lead to retaliations, and it has been decided, therefore, to give time in order to allow feeling to cool down. It is probable (says the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*) that before the elections are resumed an understanding will be arrived at between the two sections of the Liberal party in the club.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d. and 11s. each of all Chemists. Proprietors, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and do not be persuaded to take imitations.

"SENDING-IN" AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

(BY ONE WHO WAS THERE.)

A notable scene, my masters, this sending-in to the Royal Academy, and one which hangs about the memory of the person who has once been impressed by the striking proceedings. Friday and Saturday last were the first two days, but, although more pictures were delivered than usual, but a few artists took advantage of "early door." For did not "Picture Sunday" intervene, when friends and admirers were counting upon an invitation to the studio? And so it came about that yesterday was the day selected by the great mass of the outsiders for delivering their pictures into the hands of the porters.

What a harvest! As the hours rolled by, van after van, from the huge furniture van to the humble greengrocer's cart, advanced in solemn but spasmodic procession down the brick-hedged lane that divides the University of London from the Burlington-arcade. In front—in the well-known courtyard—pictures were also received, but small carts and hansom cabs were there the rule; yet, in spite of the fact that this entrance was distinctly unpopular, the front hall of the Academy became fuller and fuller as the day advanced, and as the stacks increased in number and volume, by midnight passage about it became more and more difficult. Little pictures predominated—water-colours and small oils for the most part; but they were packed about in a manner that would astonish the inexperienced in such matters.

But the great sight is at the yawning door in the passage aforesaid. Here the work is progressing swiftly and deftly, and in that orderly manner that is the outcome of experience and organization. Up drives the cart, carrying, say, half-a-dozen pictures on the average; the men in charge quickly unload, and between them carry the pictures along the passage and hand them over into the official keeping of the porter. If the picture is particularly large and heavy, a cry is raised for the trolly, a little conveyance standing six inches off the floor, and the thing is wheeled along to where the great hydraulic lift is at work. This huge machine is loaded as swiftly as expert hands can do so, with an absence of noise and fuss that is not the least surprising feature of the proceedings. But although the moving platform rises every ten minutes laden with two or three score works, landing its freight in the central hall above, it cannot keep pace with the delivery. The pictures begin to accumulate. They are stacked around in scores, in fifties, in hundreds, and spread like some curious fungus growth or strange geological formation along the walls of the passage—sometimes, aye, sometimes fifteen deep, and huge pictures, too, some of them—until they abut on to the cavernous vestibule at the entrance, and but an eighteen-inch path is left between the banks of frames. Time goes on; six o'clock, seven, eight, ten. The stream of vehicles, sometimes irregular, never stops; but all is quiet and orderly. Five thousand, six thousand, seven thousand. "More in now than this time last year," says one man, an official, who knows what he is talking about. And as the hours roll on it becomes evident that the numbers will rival, if not surpass, last year's total. Eleven o'clock. All this time the lift is working, and upstairs no fewer than seven of the great Academy rooms are crammed full of works of art (and otherwise). The Selecting Committee has been sitting all day; they have begun their work early; but what impression can a day's selecting make on this vast mass of material? Half-past eleven. The numbers have been passed; it is a record! If a score of pictures has been delivered, eleven thousand five hundred works—each one carrying hopes and fears in its train—have gone in for judgment. Quarter to twelve, and there is a lull—not in the delivery, but in the succession of carts. Will more come? The men themselves are getting excited as the hour of closing draws nigh. "There's a big 'un to come," cries one; and Mr. T. B. Hardy's huge water-colour of "H. M. Customs"—probably the biggest ever painted in the medium—is laboriously lifted in with its big plate-glass front. Then a move is made for the great door in Burlington-street, and as the first stroke of twelve booms forth from the church tower hard by, the heavy door is swung to, and whatever pictures have halted on their way must be kept back until another twelve months have sped round.

THE LAST MONDAY POPULAR CONCERT.

So good that one regretted that it was the last. A well selected galaxy of talent, including Joachim and Néruda, Piatti, Fanny Davies, and Agnes Zimmerman, with Liza Lehmann as vocalist, brought together one of the fullest nights of the season—also one of the hottest—not because of the weather, which was cold, but simply because most of the side ventilators were closed—a great mistake—the audience being half asphyxiated, in spite of their enthusiasm, before the end of the concert. We are bound to say we never heard a finer rendering of Mozart's great quintet, and especially Spohr's great double concerto for two violins. Néruda and Joachim were not unequally yoked together on this occasion. At times the two instruments sounded like a complete quartet; at others, they vied with each other in friendly rivalry, or responded like twin nightingales in thrilling passages of sweetness long drawn out—leaving, certainly, nothing to be desired except more of it, when, like a ravishing dream, it came all too soon to an end. Piatti was superb in Rubinstein's sonata with Fanny Davies—a very disembodied violoncello, no rosin and catgut left—nothing but the magic of inspired sound. Every one was in fine cue—Miss Lehmann surpassing herself in "La charmante Marguérite." On any other occasion she would have been recalled several times, but the audience had just exhausted itself in a fourfold recall of Néruda and Joachim. Indeed, it was a night of phenomenal recalls—the audience rising in their seats whilst the players were detained willing captives on the platform—bowing and smiling, and deprecating the applause in honour of each other—Piatti running off the stage and abdicating in favour of Fanny Davies, and the gallant Joachim doing the same in honour and rather to the confusion of Lady Hallé. The bulk of the audience sat out Schumann's quintet, the least happy performance of the lot, which brought one of the finest Monday Pops ever given to a close.

THE BRADFORD STATUE OF MR. FORSTER.

Mr. Harvard Thomas's statue of the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, which is to be effected in Bradford, has been cast in bronze by Messrs. H. Young and Co., Pimlico. The figure is 9 ft. 3 in. high. Mr. Forster is represented in a speaking attitude, not unlike one he familiarly assumed. His head is slightly raised, and his right hand uplifted, and outstretched almost to a level with his head, he is apparently driving home some oratorical point with emphasis. The ordinary civilian costume, with frock coat, does not lend itself to graceful lines of drapery, but those who were familiar with the statesman in his public appearances will recognize him in form and gesture.—*Leeds Mercury.*

Subscriptions have been received from the Marquis of Lansdowne and Sir Frederick Roberts to the Napier of Magdala Fund.

Lord and Lady Hobhouse are leaving London on Wednesday for the season, as Lord Hobhouse has not recovered fully from influenza.

The Rev. Dr. Warre, Head Master of Eton College, will be a first-class passenger to Lisbon by the Union Steamship Company's Royal Mail steamer *Tartar*, sailing from Southampton on April 4.

If we are to believe a paragraph going the rounds an invention for the purpose of dispensing with the milking of cows by hand has been successfully tried on an Ayrshire farm belonging to the Duke of Portland.

At a meeting of forty traders, held last night in the Hammersmith Broadway Lecture Hall, a resolution was passed appealing to Mr. Blundell Maple to withdraw his bill in favour of Sir John Lubbock's measure.

Arrangements have been made for a series of Sunday afternoon organ recitals in the Royal Albert Hall, commencing on April 6, at 3.30 P.M. Tickets of admission may be had by forwarding a stamped, addressed envelope to Mr. Henry Mills, secretary National Sunday League 8, Theobald's-road, W.C., specifying the Sundays for which tickets are required.

The Early Closing Association announces that the following firms will close for the Easter holidays from the evening before Good Friday till the following Tuesday morning:—Messrs. Shoolbred and Co., Tottenham Court-road, Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, Wigmore-street, Mr. F. Gorringe, and Mr. H. Hoadley, Buckingham Palace-road.

Mr. A. O. Hume, C.B., the well-known ex-official and head of the National Congress movement, has just arrived in London (the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* announces). Within a few hours of his arrival a telegram was received from Simla announcing the death of Mrs. Hume. The object of Mr. Hume's visit is political.

Mr. Paul Du Chaillu's new work, an abridged edition of his two books of African travel, will be published during the Easter recess. The book was promised early in the year, but the work of preparing the illustrations, which are very numerous, took longer than was anticipated. Mr. Du Chaillu, in his preface, claims that the dwarfs he encountered are the same race as those who so harassed Stanley in his march to Emin's rescue.

Of the seven persons who were prosecuted for alleged outrages upon public morals in Paris, the court has condemned the author of certain indecent books to three months' imprisonment, and to pay 100 f. fine. An authoress was consigned to gaol for one month, and ordered to pay a similar amount. The publisher was sent to prison for fifteen days, and mulcted in 1,000 f. penalty. The other defendants, who included the designer and librarians, were acquitted.

C. BRANDAUER and CO.'S Circular Pointed Pens write as smoothly as a lead pencil, and neither scratch nor spurt, the points being rounded by a new process. Seven Prize Medals awarded. Assorted sample box 6d., post free for 7 stamps from *C. Brandauer and Co.'s Pen Works, Birmingham.*

OFF FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

Subjoined are the latest railway arrangements for the Easter holidays. As usual, tickets may be bought at any of the local offices or at the various stations some days beforehand :—

Great Western.—Cheap tickets at special low fares, and available from April 3 to 7, will be issued from London to the Yeovil and Weymouth district, and to the principal stations in the West of England, and a fast excursion train will leave Paddington on Thursday, April 3, reaching Exeter in five and a quarter hours and Plymouth in seven and a half hours. Excursions will also be run to Leamington, Birmingham, Chester, Cheltenham, Reading, Oxford, Gloucester, Bath, Bristol, and other stations on the Great Western system. The newspaper train leaving Paddington at 5.30 A.M. will run on Good Friday as usual as far as Oxford, Exeter, and Swansea, and the usual intermediate stations. This train will connect at Oxford with trains to the Worcester, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton districts.

Great Eastern.—In addition to relieving trains on Thursday and Good Friday, a special train will leave Liverpool-street on Thursday at 8.3 P.M. for Ipswich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, &c. ; and on Saturday, special midnight trains will leave Liverpool-street for Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, calling at the principal intermediate stations. On Easter Monday special excursion trains will leave St. Pancras for Ely, Cambridge, and Yarmouth, and Liverpool-street for Southend, Clacton, Walton, Harwich, Cambridge, and Ely. Excursion tickets will also be issued by all trains to Epping Forest, Broxbourne, and Rye House. A special service of trains will run to Chingford, Loughton, Broxbourne, and Rye House. Cheap tickets will be issued by the company viâ the Harwich route, enabling holiday makers to visit the Belgian Ardennes, Brussels, Holland, and the Rhine. Passengers leaving London on Wednesday or Thursday evening can reach the Ardennes, Brussels, or the Hague the next afternoon, and return on Monday, arriving in London on Tuesday morning.

Brighton and South Coast.—On Thursday a fourteen-day excursion to Paris, viâ Dieppe and Rouen, will be run from London by a special day service, and also by the fixed night service. On Good Friday and Easter Sunday trips will be run from London to Brighton, Worthing, Midhurst, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Lewes, Tunbridge Wells, Eastbourne, Bexhill, St. Leonard's and Hastings. Special Saturday to Tuesday tickets will be issued from London to Brighton, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight. Extra trains will be run to the Crystal Palace. On Easter Monday special cheap excursions will be run from London to Brighton, Worthing, Midhurst, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Eastbourne, St. Leonard's, and Hastings. For the Volunteer manœuvres at Brighton, Portsmouth, and Eastbourne on Easter Monday, special trains will be run. On Easter Tuesday cheap day trips will be run from London to Brighton and Worthing.

South Eastern.—On Good Friday there will be day excursions from Charing-cross, Waterloo, Cannon-street, London Bridge, and New-cross, for Dover, Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Sandgate, Hythe, Sandling Junction, Westenhanger, Margate, Ramsgate, Walmer, Deal, Sandwich, Minster, Canterbury, Ashford, Tunbridge Wells, Hastings, and St. Leonard's and back. On Easter Sunday there will be a cheap day excursion from the above stations, starting from Charing-cross at 9.5 A.M., and other stations proportionately, to Tunbridge Wells, St. Leonard's, and Hastings. On Easter Monday there will be a day excursion to the same places as on Good Friday. The company will issue special cheap return tickets on Wednesday, April 2, and following days to Monday, April 7, inclusive, from Charing-cross and Cannon-street to Brussels, viâ Dover and Ostend, with liberty to break the journey at Ostend, Bruges, and Ghent, by the trains at 8.40 A.M. and 7 P.M. respectively, to return within eight days inclusive, by any train and boat. A cheap excursion will start for Calais and back from Charing-cross at 8.40 A.M., and Cannon-street at 8.45 A.M. on Easter Monday (returning same day from Calais, or Tuesday morning at 1.30). There will also be a special cheap excursion to Paris and back from Charing-cross and Cannon-street on Thursday, April 3, the tickets being available for seven days.

London and South Western.—Cheap Excursion on Thursday, April 3, to Plymouth, South and North Devon, &c., will leave London (Waterloo), &c., at 8.40 A.M., and to Southampton West, Bournemouth, Dorchester, Weymouth, &c., at 12.10 P.M. There will be an additional train for Plymouth, Devonport, and North Devon, to leave Waterloo at 8.45 p.m. on Thursday, April 3. The 9.45 P.M. mail will convey passengers to Bournemouth East on Thursday, 3rd April, and to Weymouth on 3rd, 5th and 7th April. A Special Extra Train will leave Waterloo at 5.50 A.M. for Basingstoke. Salisbury, Exeter, &c., on Good Friday. An Excursion Train from Waterloo at 7.0 A.Mt at reduced Fares, for Portsmouth, Southampton, Romsey, Salisbury, Wilton, &c., a 8.20 A.M. to the New Forest and Bournemouth. A Four days' Excursion from Waterloo at 1.15 P.M. on Saturday, 5th April, for Portsmouth, Southampton, Winchester, Gosport, Salisbury, Romsey, &c., also to Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, by Fast Train, leaving Waterloo at 3.25 P.M, viâ Direct Line. Day Excursions at reduced fares, from Waterloo, at 8.40 A.M. on Easter Sunday, for Portsmouth, Ryde, &c. On Easter Monday, at 7.5 A.M. for Portsmouth, Gosport, Southampton, Winchester, Salisbury, Romsey, &c. ; and at 8.30 A.M. for Lyndhurst Road, Brockenhurst (for the New Forest), Lymington and Bournemouth East, also a Fast Train for Bournemouth only at 8.0 A.M. A late Train from Devonport at 10.0 P.M., on Monday, April 7, for London, calling at Plymouth, North Road, at 10.5 P.M., Tavistock 10.45, Ilfracombe 9.20 P.M., Barnstaple Junction 10.35 P.M., and Exeter at 12.10 Tuesday morning, and at other principal stations. Additional facilities are likewise afforded for passengers from London to the Isle of Wight, viâ the Direct Line, and Portsmouth, viâ Stokes Bay and viâ Southampton and viâ Lymington.

Victoria Steamboat Association (Limited).—Weather permitting, on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, this company's steamer, *Glen Rosa*, will run to Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, Southend, and for a sea trip round the *Girdler* Lightship, leaving London Bridge (Old Swan Pier) at 10 A.M. A saloon steamer will leave Old Swan Pier at 10.30 A.M. for Southend and Sheerness and back (calling at usual places). There will be steamers to Greenwich, Rosherville, Gravesend, &c., to Kew, Hammersmith, &c., and the saloon steamer *Cardinal Wolsey* will go to Hampton Court, Richmond, and Teddington, stopping at all piers up the river from London Bridge.

THE OTTOMAN RAILWAY.

The Right Hon. D. R. Plunket, M.P., presided yesterday at the half-yearly meeting of the Ottoman Railway Company (from Smyrna to Aidin), of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, held at Winchester House, and in moving the adoption of the report, which recommended a dividend of 18*s*. per share, said the year 1889 had broken the records of all previous years. The gross receipts had been £175,932, as compared with £151,634 in the great year of 1888 ; the result was a net profit of upwards of £101,657, as compared with £90,343 in the preceding year ; the prosperity of the railway depended on the season in Asia Minor, but he believed that any future check would be the exception. Lines were being extended into various districts, and he believed that, while their operations would tend to the revival of trade by enabling the people to bring their products down to the sea, they would earn the shareholders in the railway substantial profits. The report was adopted, and Mr. Henry Swaffield was appointed on the council of administration in place of Sir G. K. Rickards, deceased.

BARON HUDDLESTON AND THE BARRISTER.

At Birmingham assizes yesterday Baron Huddleston complained that Mr. Stanbury Eardley, barrister, was wasting the time of the court, and called on him to conclude his cross-examination of a witness in five minutes. His lordship said the case was conducted in a disgraceful manner, and Mr. Eardley retorted that he had been subjected to a constant stream of insults. As Mr. Eardley had not concluded his cross-examination in the specified time, the case was adjourned to London.

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PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing the valuable India-Rubber Concession granted by the Government of the Republic of Liberia, West Coast of Africa, for the sole right of collecting the India-rubber grown on all the Government lands and forests, and the sole right of exporting all India-rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia, such Concession further granting the Concessionaires 2,000 acres of land, to be selected by them for the purpose of erecting warehouses, stores, residences, and establishing depots, wharves, and trading stations, or for such other purposes in connection with the Concession as the Concessionaires may from time to time deem necessary or desirable, and to be held free of any charge whatever ; and if hereafter thought desirable, work such Concession, or to sell or lease the whole or portions thereof to companies or individuals ; and also to take over, work, sell, or lease to companies or individuals, at the discretion of the Directors, any other Concession or Concessions which may now or hereafter be obtained by the Company from the Government of the Liberian Republic.

The rubber concession covers the whole area of the Government lands on which the gum elastic rubber tree is found, producing rubber of the best West African quality ; and the Government estimate that a minimum of 2,000 tons can be collected annually (and also the sole right of exporting all other rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia), which, delivered in London or Liverpool, including the royalty to be paid to the Government of Liberia, will, it is estimated, show a profit (if only realizing 1s. per lb.) of £112,000 per annum. Labour is cheap and plentiful, and the natives of this part of Africa are industrious.

The use of rubber is being very largely extended, and is being brought into general use for manufacturing purposes, and is now being extensively used in Berlin, Hanover, and Hamburg, in connection with other materials, for paving the streets, and no doubt will soon be applicable for many other similar purposes.

The area of the Republic is estimated to be about 150,000 square miles, or about 96,000,000 acres, most of which is of the richest character, yielding almost every known kind of tropical produce, whilst the value of its mineral wealth can scarcely be estimated.

The resources of Liberia (which are comparatively undeveloped), together with its natural advantages, are anticipated to afford a very profitable field for the employment of British capital ; its position being such as to hold the key of many of the principal trading routes to and from the interior of Africa, and it may be said to have the monopoly of the ivory trade in that region, which of itself should prove a source of great wealth to the Company.

The following Concessions, which the Consul-General states the Liberian Government are prepared to grant, have been applied for, and the Consul-General also states the Liberian Government have undertaken not to grant any Concessions without first offering them to the vendor or his nominee.

A concession to work and get minerals. This, if obtained, will be one of which it is almost impossible to estimate the value, it being well known that the West Coast of Africa abounds in mineral wealth of every description, especially gold, and the natives have exported thousands of pounds' worth of gold dust obtained by them by the most primitive methods. Silver is also believed to exist in large quantities. The iron ore found in Liberia is of the very highest quality, containing over 60 per cent. of metallic iron, according to the sample assayed, while, it is stated, large coal deposits exist there.

A concession to grow, cultivate, and gather all kinds of fibre-producing plants, including cotton, jute, flax, hemp, and other like materials, and also cocoa, coffee, cocoa-nuts, bananas, pines, oranges, spices, and all other kinds of fruit and berries grown on the lands of the Republic. The coffee grown in Liberia is known to be the finest in the world.

A concession for the right to acquire, by barter or otherwise, and to collect palm and other vegetable oils and similar products, over all the Government domains not in private occupation.

A concession for the right on all the Government lands of the Republic not in private occupation, of collecting indigo, of felling, cutting, using, and exporting all kinds of timber and dye-woods. The best known species of the latter are grown in great abundance.

A concession for the right to collect on the Government lands not in private occupation, or acquire by purchase, barter, or otherwise, all kinds of hides, skins, ivory, bone, and such like material, and of selling and exporting the same.

A Concession for the sole and exclusive right to establish a State Bank, under charter from the Government, with the privilege of issuing paper currency. The construction of steam and other tram lines, telegraphs, canals, and other public works, and to grant contracts and leases for the same.

The Republic of Liberia lies between the British Settlements, on the West Coast of Africa, and is bounded on the north side by Sierra Leone, and on the south by Cape Coast Castle. It is in direct communication by steam with the principal British and Continental ports, and the Bay of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, affords good anchorage, and is capable of accommodating vessels of large draught, and is several days nearer Liverpool and London than the West Indies.

The English language is the language of the State, and the Government of Liberia has been modelled on that of the United States of America, and is recognized by all the Great Powers, being included in the Treaty of Berlin ; therefore offering a good guarantee of ample protection to traders, on the coast or in the interior.

The price to be paid to the Vendor for the India-Rubber Concession, and in respect of his interest in the other concessions which have been applied for, has been fixed by the Vendor at £70,000, payable as to £7,000 in cash and as to £23,000 in fully-paid ordinary shares, £3,000 in deferred shares, and the balance in cash or fully-paid ordinary shares, or partly in cash and partly in shares, at the option of the directors ; the deferred shares ranking only for dividend after the Company has earned sufficient to pay a dividend on the ordinary paid-up capital of 25 per cent., when the deferred shareholders, after receiving a dividend of 25 per cent., will be entitled to one-half of the balance of the remaining profits.

The vendor, who is the promoter, will provide all the preliminary expenses of floating the Company, the issue and subscription of its capital, and the remuneration of brokers.

The following concession has been granted and agreement entered into :—

1. A concession, dated January 21, 1890, granted to Ellis Parr and others by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia, for the sole right of collecting the india-rubber grown on the Government lands and forests, and the sole right of exporting all india-rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia, subject to the payment of the royalties and bonus therein mentioned ; such concession further securing the concessionaires a grant of 2,000 acres of land, to be selected by them for the purpose of erecting warehouses, stores, residences, and establishing depots, wharves, and trading stations, or for other purposes, in connection with the concession, as the concessionaires may from time to time deem necessary or desirable, and held free of any charge whatever.

2. An agreement, dated the 14th day of March, 1890, between Ellis Parr of the one part, and the Company of the other part.

The above Concession and Agreement, and a copy of the Act relating to the Concession, as passed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia, dated January 21st, 1890, together with an Ordnance Map of the country, and the Memorandum and Articles of Association, may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

In addition to the above contracts the vendor has entered into others as to the expenses of the formation of the Company, and to the issue and placing of the capital ; also contracts with his agents relating to the acquisition of the concessions. As these contracts and arrangements may technically be contracts within the meaning of Section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, applicants for shares shall be deemed to have notice thereof, and to have waived all rights to have any particulars of such contracts or arrangements, whether under Section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, or otherwise.

Application should be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus, and forwarded, with a deposit of 2s. 6d. per share, to the Bankers or Secretary of the Company.

Where no allotment is made, the money paid on application will be returned in full, and where a less number of shares are allotted than the number applied for, the balance of the application money will be credited towards the amount due on allotment.

An early application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for an official quotation.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be had or obtained from the Bankers, Solicitors, Auditors, or the Secretary to the Company.

29th March, 1890.

Since the Prospectus was approved by the Directors, various samples of Liberian Rubber have been submitted to leading brokers in the rubber trade in this country, who have offered to take any quantity that can be produced at sums varying from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. It will be seen the basis of profit was estimated upon a realization of only one shilling per lb.

IMPERIAL RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT CONVERSION LOAN.
CONVERSION AND REDEMPTION of the RUSSIAN 5 PER CENT. LOAN OF 1862 FOR £15,000,000, by means of an issue of £11,865,000 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Payment in Cash of £3,900,000, in conformity with the Ukase of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, dated the 9/21 March, 1890.

Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD and SONS are authorized to receive Bonds of the Five per Cent. Loan of 1862 for conversion into the new Four per Cent. Bonds.

Applications for conversion will be received until Thursday, April 3, inclusive.

In the conversion, for every £100 nominal Capital of the Five per Cent. Loan, the holder will be entitled to £79 2s. nominal Capital of the Four per Cent. Loan, and a payment in cash of £26.

Holders converting their 5 per cent. Bonds will detach the Coupon due the 1st May, 1890, and as the conversion takes effect from the 1st May, and Interest will not commence on the new Bonds until the 1st June, one month's Interest on the new Bonds will be added to the cash payment mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The coupon for the first three months' Interest on the new Bonds will be payable on the 1st September next.

The 4 per cent. Bonds, both Principal and Interest, will be free from all Russian taxes.

The Loan will be divided into Bonds of £19 15s. 6d, £98 17s. 6d., and £494 7s. 6d., with Coupons payable quarterly, on the 1st March, 1st June, 1st September, and 1st December, in London, at the offices of Messrs. N. M. Rothschild and Sons, and in Paris, Berlin, Frankfort-on-Maine, Amsterdam, Brussels, New York, and St. Petersburg, at the exchange of £19 15s. 6d. = francs 500 = reichsmarks 404 = Dutch florins 239 = U.S. 96.25 dols. = gold roubles 125.

An accumulative Sinking Fund will reimburse these Bonds at par in 81 years, by half-yearly drawings on the 1st March and the 1st September, and repayment will be made three months later, at the places fixed for the payment of Coupons. The first drawing will take place on the 1st March, 1891. The Government undertakes not to increase the Sinking Fund before the 1st January, 1900.

Application must be accompanied by a deposit of £5 per cent. in money, or an approximate amount in convertible Bonds, unless subscribers prefer to deposit all their Bonds when making application. The whole of the Bonds furnished with the talon and all Coupons subsequent to the 1st May, 1890, must be listed on forms which can be obtained on application, and deposited not later than the 30th April next. The failure to deliver the 5 per cent. Bonds when required will render the Deposit on Application liable to forfeiture.

Subscription Lists are also opened in Paris, Berlin, Frankfort a/M., Amsterdam, Brussels, Antwerp, St. Petersburg, &c.

All Bonds of the 5 per Cent. Loan of 1862 not presented for conversion will cease to bear interest on the 1st July, 1890, and will be repayable in cash at par, with accrued interest, on that date.

New Court, 25th March, 1890.

THE CITY OF MELBOURNE BANK (LIMITED).

Capital, 400,000 Shares of £5 each		£2,000,000
Issued 200,000 Shares :—		
Paid up........................	£500,000	
Uncalled	500,000	1,000,000
Reserve Fund		370,000

LONDON OFFICE.—117, Bishopsgate-street Within.
BANKERS.—Bank of England, Royal Bank of Scotland. Dublin : Messrs. Guinness, Mahon, and Co.

All banking business in connection with the Australian colonies transacted.

Deposits received on terms to be ascertained on application.

EDMUND ROUSE, Manager.

Employers' Liability Accidents. All Accidents during Employment ; General, Railway, and Marine Accidents ; Fidelity Guarantees.

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION (LIMITED).
Nos. 84 and 85, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
CAPITAL £1,000,000.
Fully subscribed, £500,000 ; paid-up, £100,000.
DIRECTORS.
Chairman, Lord CLAUD HAMILTON.

C. F. H. Bolckow, Esq., Middlesbrough.	Henry W. Maynard, Esq.
Anthony Bower, Esq., Liverpool.	Robert Milburn, Esq.
Henry Chapman, Esq., C.E.	Leopold Salomons, Esq.
Sir William B. Forwood, Liverpool.	Charles Thomas, Esq.
Walter H. Maudslay, Esq.	Phillip H. Waterlow, Esq.
	Robert O. White, Esq.

Names of workmen not required ; premium charged on total wages at 2s. per cent. and upwards.

Reduced rates for general accidents, with bonus on all renewals.

Collective fidelity guarantee policies for any number of persons.

Applications for agencies invited.

S. STANLEY BROWN, General Manager.

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION.
Established 1806.
ASSURANCE FUND FOUR MILLIONS.
Mutual Assurance at Least Cost.
81, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

INSTITUTED A.D. 1696.
HAND-IN-HAND INSURANCE SOCIETY.
(MUTUAL, both FIRE and LIFE.)
LIFE.—Profits divided Annually.
FIRE.—Quinquennially or Septennially.
Bonuses Large. Expenses Moderate. No Personal Liability.
ANNUAL INCOME, £318,609.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS, £2,362,265.
No. 26, New Bridge-street, E.C.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,
AND
57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE,
27, KING-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,692
CHARLES ROUSE BROWNE, Secretary.

THE FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).
Chief Office : 90, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Capital fully subscribed, £800,000.
Chairman, Sir R. N. FOWLER, Bart., M.P.
POLICIES falling due at LADY DAY should be renewed on or before the 9th April.
DAVID LAWRIE, General Manager.

REVERSIONS AND LIFE INTERESTS in LANDED or FUNDED PROPERTY or other securities and annuities PURCHASED, or loans or annuities thereon granted by the EQUITABLE REVERSIONARY INTEREST SOCIETY (LIMITED), 10, LANCASTER-PLACE, WATERLOO-BRIDGE, STRAND, Established 1835. Capital, £500,000. Interest on Loans may be capitalized.

F. S. CLAYTON } Joint
C. H. CLAYTON } Secretaries.

CROSSE and BLACKWELL'S

PURE MALT VINEGAR,

IN IMPERIAL PINT AND QUART BOTTLES,

IS SOLD BY ALL GROCERS AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN.

Notice the Names of **CROSSE & BLACKWELL** *on the Labels and Capsules.*

EASTER ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY. — ALL ORDINARY RETURN TICKETS will be available as under:—

For distances under 10 miles—those issued on Saturday or Sunday, April 5th and 6th, will be available for return up to and including Monday, April 7th: those issued on any other day available for the day of issue only.

For distances 10 to 50 miles—those issued on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday, April 3rd, 4th, and 5th, will be available for return any day up to and including Wednesday, April 9th; those issued on any other day will be available for four days.

For distances over 50 miles—available for eight days.

The Cheap Saturday to Monday Tickets issued to or from London and the Seaside, on Saturday, April 5th, will be available for return on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, April 7th, 8th, and 9th.

EXTRA TRAINS FOR ISLE OF WIGHT.—The 4.55 P.M. Victoria and 5.0 P.M. London Bridge will convey Passengers for Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor, Newport, and Cowes, on April 3 and 5 (1st, 2nd, and 3rd class).

ON GOOD FRIDAY the trains, with a few exceptions, will run as on Sundays with extra Cheap Trains.

PARIS AT EASTER.—SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION, THURSDAY April 3rd. Leaving London Bridge 12.40 P.M. and 8.0 P.M., and Victoria 12.40 P.M. and 7.50 P.M., Kensington 12.5 P.M. and 8.5 P.M.

Returning from Paris at 8.50 P.M. on any day up to and including Wednesday, April 16th. Fares—First class, 39s. 3d.; second class, 30s. 3d.

PORTSMOUTH & ISLE OF WIGHT. CHEAP EXCURSIONS on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, from London Bridge 8.0 A.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and West Croydon; and from Victoria 7.50 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction, to Midhurst, Arundel, Littlehampton, Bognor, Chichester, Havant, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight. Returning same day.

A CHEAP EXCURSION, Saturday, April 5th, to Havant, Southsea, Portsmouth, and Isle of Wight, from London Bridge 2.30 P.M., calling at New-cross and West Croydon; from Victoria 1.0 P.M., and from Kensington (Addison-road) 12.45 P.M., returning by certain Trains only the following Tuesday evening.

A CHEAP EXCURSION also from Ventnor and Isle of Wight stations with through connection from Ryde 4.0 P.M. and 6.15 P.M., Portsmouth 5.5 P.M. and 6.45 P.M., Southsea 4.40 P.M. and 7.0 P.M., and Havant 5.25 P.M. and 7.5 P.M., on Saturday, April 5th, to London; returning by certain Trains only the following Tuesday afternoon.

A CHEAP EXCURSION, Easter Monday, from London Bridge, Victoria, and Kensington (Addison-road) 8.40 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction and West Croydon, to Havant, Southsea, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight. Returning same day.

Return Fares between London and Portsmouth Town, Southsea and Havant. Day Excursions Good Friday and Easter Sunday, 4s. Easter Monday and Saturday to Tuesday, 5s.

CHEAP RETURN TICKETS also issued between Portsmouth, Havant, Chichester, and Brighton, on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday.

HASTINGS, ST. LEONARDS, AND EASTBOURNE.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS on GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER SUNDAY, from London Bridge 8.5 A.M., calling at New-cross, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon; and from Victoria 8 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction; returning same day. Fare there and back, 4s.

A SPECIAL EXCURSION to Hastings and St. Leonards on Easter Monday from London Bridge 7.40 A.M., calling at New Cross and East Croydon; from Victoria 7.40 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 5s.

A SPECIAL EXCURSION to Eastbourne on Easter Monday from London Bridge 8.0 A.M., and Victoria 7.50 A.M. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 5s.

CHEAP RETURN TICKETS also issued between Hastings, St. Leonards, Eastbourne, and Brighton.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS on Good Friday and Easter Sunday by the new direct route from London Bridge 8.35 A.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon; from Victoria 8.50 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 3s.

BRIGHTON AND WORTHING.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Tuesday, from London Bridge 8.40 A.M., calling at New Cross; from Victoria 8.40 A.M., and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.40 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, Clapham Junction, Norwood Junction, and Croydon. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 3s.

SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSIONS, Easter Monday, by frequent Special Trains, leaving London Bridge from 7.0 to 8.50 A.M., Victoria 7.0 to 8.50 A.M., and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.15 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction, Crystal Palace, Norwood Junction, and Croydon. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 4s.

A SPECIAL EXCURSION on Easter Monday from Whitechapel 8.20 A.M., calling at Shadwell, Wapping, Rotherhithe, and Deptford-road. Returning same day. Fare there and back, 4s. 3d.

BRIGHTON.—SATURDAY to TUESDAY.—SPECIAL CHEAP TRAINS, SATURDAY, April 5, from VICTORIA 2.0 P.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from Kensington (Addison Road), 1.50 P.M., calling at West Brompton and Chelsea; from London Bridge 2.15 P.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon.

Returning only on the following Tuesday, and then only by the 6.45 P.M. Train from West Brighton and 7.10 P.M. Train from Brighton (Central Station). Return fare 5s.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS on Good Friday from all parts of the Line to the Crystal Palace and London.

FREQUENT DIRECT TRAINS DAILY to the Crystal Palace from London Bridge, New Cross; also from Victoria, Kensington (Addison-road), West Brompton, and Chelsea.

BRANCH BOOKING OFFICES.—For the convenience of passengers who may desire to take their Tickets in advance, the following Branch Booking Offices, in addition to those at the Victoria, Kensington (Addison-road), and London Bridge Stations, are now open for the issue of Tickets to all Stations on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, to the Isle of Wight, Paris, and the Continent, &c.:—

*The Company's General West End Booking Offices, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, W., and 8, Grand Hotel-buildings (under the Grand Hotel), Trafalgar-square.

Hay's City Agency, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

Cook's Tourist Offices, Ludgate-circus and Euston-road.

Gaze's Tourist Offices, 142, Strand.

Jakins' Office, "Red Cap," Camden-road, and 96, Leadenhall-street.

Tickets issued at these Offices will be dated to suit the convenience of Passengers.

*These two Offices will remain open until 10 P.M. on April 2nd, 3rd, and 5th.

For full particulars of times, fares, &c., see handbills and special programme, to be had at all stations, or at any of the above Branch Booking Offices.

(By order.)

A. SARLE, Secretary and General Manager.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—For full particulars of EXTENSION OF TIME of Ordinary Return Tickets for distances over Ten and under Fifty miles, the Cheap Return Tickets issued on week-days between London and Sandling Junction, Hythe, Sandgate, Shorncliffe, New Romney, Ramsgate, Margate, Dover, and Sheerness, also the CHEAP SATURDAY to MONDAY Tickets issued on April 5th, and the CHEAP SUNDAY to MONDAY Tickets to Ramsgate and Margate issued on GOOD FRIDAY, *see Bills*.

EXCURSIONS TO THE SEASIDE, &c., AT REDUCED FARES.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY, GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER MONDAY. Ashford, Canterbury, Deal, Walmer, Ramsgate, Margate, Sandling Junction, Hythe, Sandgate, Shorncliffe, Folkestone, Dover, Tunbridge Wells, St. Leonards, Hastings, &c. Fares there and back, 3rd Class:—

GOOD FRIDAY.

To Ashford and Tunbridge Wells.. 3s.
To other stations .... 4s.

EASTER MONDAY.

To Tunbridge Wells .... 4s.
To Ashford .... 3s. 6d.
Other stations .... 5s.

EASTER SUNDAY, excursion to TUNBRIDGE WELLS, ST. LEONARDS, and HASTINGS. Fares there and back, 3rd class, Tunbridge Wells, 3s.; St. Leonards and Hastings, 4s.

EASTER HOLIDAYS. — SPECIAL TRAINS for HAYES, BLACKHEATH, GREENWICH, GRAVESEND (for ROSHERVILLE GARDENS), &c. Various Important Special alterations and arrangements. Extra Trains, 1, 2, and 3 Class.

EASTER HOLIDAYS AT OSTEND AND BRUSSELS.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—Special Cheap Tickets will be issued at Charing-cross and Cannon-street stations from 2nd to 7th April, available by 8.40 A.M. and 7.0 P.M. Trains only, and for 8 days. Fares there and back:—Ostend, 1st Class, 31s.; 2nd Class, 24s. Brussels, 1st Class, 40s. 3d.; 2nd Class, 31s. Also Tickets to the Field of Waterloo.

CALAIS and BACK on BANK HOLIDAY, April 7.—SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—Special Cheap Excursion, leaving Charing-cross at 8.40 A.M. and Cannon-street at 8.45 A.M. Returning from Calais at 1.25 P.M. or 4.0 P.M. same day, or 1.30 A.M. next day (Tuesday). Fares there and back, 1st Class, 16s. 6d.; 3rd Class, 11s. 6d.

SPECIAL CHEAP EXCURSION TO PARIS AND BACK, leaving Charing-cross and Cannon-street, THURSDAY, April 3. Fares there and back, 2nd Class, 37s. 6d.; 3rd Class, 30s. Tickets available for seven days. Full particulars by handbills.

Continental Express and Mail Services as usual.

For further particulars see Bills, &c.

MYLES FENTON, General Manager.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY.—EASTER HOLIDAYS.—For full particulars of the usual extension of all RETURN TICKETS and times of Return Excursion Trains, &c., see Handbills and Programmes.

CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS from London to DEVONPORT, PLYMOUTH, Tavistock, Lidford, Launceston, Holsworthy, ILFRACOMBE, Barnstaple, Bideford, Exeter, WEYMOUTH, DORCHESTER, Swanage, Poole, Bournemouth, Wimborne, Highbridge, Bath, Wells, Radstock, Shepton Mallet, &c., will be issued by all trains on 3rd April and subsequent days, up to and including 7th April, available to return up to and including 9th April.

Excursions will leave Waterloo as under, calling at the principal stations, on Thursday, 3rd April.

At 8.40 A.M. for PLYMOUTH, DEVONPORT, EXETER, Tavistock, Lidford, Launceston, Okehampton, Holsworthy (for Bude), Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Bideford, Salisbury, Templecombe, the Somerset and Dorset Line, to return April 10 and 11.

At 12.10 P.M. for WEYMOUTH, DORCHESTER, Lymington, Yarmouth, Bournemouth, Poole, Wimborne, Swanage, &c., to return April 10 and 11.

On THURSDAY, 3rd April, a Special Fast Train for BOURNEMOUTH and WEYMOUTH will leave Waterloo at 2.0 P.M. An EXTRA TRAIN will leave Waterloo for the Salisbury, Yeovil, Exeter, and WEST OF ENGLAND and NORTH DEVON Lines, at 4.45 P.M. The 5 P.M. Plymouth Train from Waterloo will convey passengers to North Devon Stations, &c.

SPECIAL LATE TRAIN on 3rd April, leaving Waterloo Station at 8.45 P.M., calling at principal stations for the WEST OF ENGLAND, Exeter, South and North Devon, &c. The Cheap Tickets will be issued by this Train.

On GOOD FRIDAY a special extra train will leave Waterloo at 5.50 A.M. for Basingstoke, Salisbury, and Exeter, calling at principal stations.

An EXCURSION to SOUTHAMPTON WEST for 4s., Lyndhurst-road, Brockenhurst (for the New Forest) and Bournemouth for 5s., will leave Waterloo at 8.20 A.M., returning from Bournemouth 7.30 P.M. same day. The weekly cheap tickets will be issued by this train. (See bills.)

PORTSMOUTH and the ISLE OF WIGHT. CHEAP EXCURSIONS will leave Waterloo as follows:—On Good Friday, at 7.0 A.M., return same day; on Saturday, 5th April, at 1.15 P.M., and by FAST TRAIN, viâ Direct Line, at 3.25 P.M., for four days; on Easter Sunday at 8.40 A.M., and Easter Monday leaving Waterloo at 7.5 A.M. for one day.

TICKETS, handbills, and all information can be procured at the Company's Central Office, 9, Grand Hotel Buildings, Charing-cross; the West-end Office, 30, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus.

For additional Train and Boat accommodation to Portsmouth, Southsea, and Isle of Wight, and other facilities, see Handbills and Excursion Programmes, which may be had at any of the Company's Stations or London Receiving Houses, or by post from the office of the Traffic Superintendent, Waterloo Bridge Station.

CHAS. SCOTTER, General Manager.

SUN LIFE OFFICE

FOR OLD AGE ASSURANCES
PAYABLE IN LIFETIME OR AT PREVIOUS DEATH.

NEW DOUBLE OPTION PROSPECTUSES NOW READY.

Applications should be made without delay (as the BOOKS CLOSE FINALLY for this Bonus at MIDSUMMER), to the Actuaries, SUN LIFE OFFICE, 63, THREADNEEDLE-STREET, E.C.

FAILING VISION.

For one pair of eyes which fail from old age, a dozen are worn out by the use of improper spectacles. This is the result of wearing spectacles which are made by the gross, and so cannot, as a rule, suit any person's requirements accurately.

Mr. BROWNING'S system of suiting the sight is to carefully test the eyes without the use of atropine or belladonna, and then have a pair of spectacles or folders made specially, under his own supervision, for each person who applies to him, the lenses being worked to suit all peculiarities of vision and the frames made to fit the features.—JOHN BROWNING, Ophthalmic Optician (Author of "Our Eyes," now in its Eighth Edition), may be consulted free of charge in all cases of failing vision, at 63, STRAND, LONDON.

THE

PALL MALL BUDGET

Of THURSDAY, March 27,

PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.

CONTAINS.

PORTRAITS OF GENERAL CAPRIVI and PRINCE BISMARCK; the two Chancellors of the German Empire.

THE TWO BISMARCKS: Father and Son. From KOPPAY'S famous Painting.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S PALACE IN BERLIN.

AT HOME AT FRIEDRICHSRUHE.

BRITISH AND BOER IN THE TRANSVAAL. A Study on the Spot. By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT KRUGER.

HOW A 'VARSITY BOAT IS BUILT.

THE NEW UNIVERSITY HALL.

SKETCHES AT THE STANLEY AND AFRICAN EXHIBITION.

HATS, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

MAY BE OBTAINED OF ALL NEWSAGENTS, AND AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS.

OFFICES: 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

SHORTHAND. Metropolitan School, Ld., 27, Chancery-lane. Business men, note—Shorthand acquired here in odd spare hours. We can place any number of gentlemanly youths and young men in the City. Book-keeping, business-hand, and training, by Specialists. French, Spanish, German, Portuguese, &c., by native teachers. Prospectus post free.

SITUATIONS.

AS COACHMAN or Stud Groom, or combined. Thoroughly experienced, lightweight, Smart, knows Town well. 35. Married, good rider and driver, excellent reference.—JEZEPH, Bristol-street, Malmesbury, Wilts.

SERIOUS OFFER.—French gentleman, 27, speaking some English, varied extensive knowledge of literature and sciences, accustomed original research, thorough knowledge (and practice) educational science, offers services, SECRETARY or similar suitable position for intelligent serious work demanding initiative and care. Best references.—Address, "Cc 101," Rice, 86, Fleet-street.

EDUCATIONAL.

EXTEMPORE SPEAKING (Oratory). Prof. GOWER, M.A. (Member of the University Senate), gives INSTRUCTION for acquiring facility in the expression of ideas and fluent delivery.—26, OXFORD-MANSION, REGENT-CIRCUS, W.

MEMORY (A. LOISETTE'S System). The *Pall Mall Gazette* (4th Feb., 1890) says:—"Tremendously popular in Oxford." Prospectus free. Post lessons any time. First lecture 8th April, 3 P.M., at 37, New Oxford-street, London.

APARTMENTS to be LET.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—BOARDERS received, or apartments. Large country house. Seaside and fishing district. Tennis.—Miss GREENHILL, Trunch, North Walsham, Norfolk.

GOOD HOLIDAY QUARTERS.—PENSION DU LAC, GUNTEN, LAKE OF THUN, Switzerland. Twenty-four hours from London. Terms 4s. per diem, inclusive of apartments and full board, with free boating, bathing, and fishing.—References permitted to E. HENLEY, 16, Stonebridge-park, N.W.

HOUSES, &c., to be LET or SOLD.

TO LET.—Houses, Villas, Mansions, Chambers (business and residential), Apartments (furnished or unfurnished), charmingly situated, all replete with modern conveniences, but many quite unfit for habitation in consequence of the dirty condition in which they have been left by the previous tenants, the confined dirt and odours arising therefrom proving a fruitful source of plague, misery, and sometimes death to their successors. To remedy this, Hudson's Soap is invaluable as a purifying agent. Hudson's will rapidly transform the dirty house into a sweet and comfortable abode; and if the water used with Hudson's Soap in the scrubbing and paint-cleaning is poured down the water-closets and sinks, the pans, pipes, &c., belonging thereto will be thoroughly cleansed. The ordinary Disinfectants claim to destroy effluvia only and many of them simply substitute an odour for a stench; but the purifying properties of Hudson's Soap removes the danger of sore throats, fevers, and worse diseases. Hudson's Soap is popular the world over for all washing, scouring, and cleansing purposes. Hudson's is a pure, Dry Soap, in fine powder, and dissolves immediately in hot or cold water, and is excellent for all purposes where ordinary soap is objectionable, such as washing dishes, plates, knives, forks, saucepans, &c., as it leaves no soapy trace or smell. From the cot to the palace the regular daily use of Hudson's promotes purity, health, and satisfaction. In 1 lb., ½ lb., and ¼ lb. packets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AMATEUR MECHANICS, Carpentry, Cabinetwork, Carving, Turning, French Polishing, &c.—Gentlemen (any age) can have lessons in the above. Prospectus one stamp.—SYER and Co., 45, Wilson-street, Finsbury, E.C.

DAFFODILS, PRIMROSES, MOSS, P.O. 1s. box. Easter decorations from 2s.—E. Treviddo Well, Liskeard, Cornwall.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY. EASTER HOLIDAYS.

On GOOD FRIDAY, Saturday, EASTER MONDAY, and SUNDAY and MONDAY. Cheap third-class tickets, available on day of issue only, will be issued by certain trains from PADDINGTON, Kensington (Addison-road), Uxbridge-road, Hammersmith, Shepherd's-bush, Latimer-road, Notting-hill, Royal Oak, Bishop's-road, and Westbourne-park, and from certain stations on the District and Metropolitan Railways to the following stations at the fares shown:—

WINDSOR, 2s. 6d.
TAPLOW, MAIDENHEAD } 3s.
COOKHAM, 3s. 6d.
BOURNE END, GREAT MARLOW, SHIPLAKE, HENLEY } 3s. 6d.

On SATURDAY and EASTER MONDAY similar tickets will be issued to these stations (except to Windsor on Saturday) from certain stations on the North London Railway.

Cheap Saturday tickets are also issued from PADDINGTON and other stations to Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Cookham, Bourne End, Great Marlow, Shiplake, and Henley.

On SATURDAY, April 5, the cheap tickets to WINDSOR will not be issued until after 2 P.M.

For full particulars see special bills.

HY. LAMBERT, General Manager.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY. EASTER HOLIDAYS.

FORTNIGHTLY, and THURSDAY, FRIDAY, or SATURDAY to TUESDAY CHEAP TICKETS will be issued by all trains to YARMOUTH, Lowestoft, Cromer, Southend-on-Sea, Clacton, Walton, Harwich, Dovercourt, Felixstowe, Aldeburgh, Southwold, and Hunstanton.

CHEAP DAY TRIPS TO THE SEASIDE.

To SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—On Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Monday, from Liverpool-street, Bishopsgate, Bethnal-green, Coborn-road, Stratford, &c. Fares—First, 5s.; second, 4s.; third, 2s. 6d. On Good Friday and Easter Sunday Trains will leave Liverpool-street at 9.10 and 10.18 A.M., and on Easter Monday at 7.8, 8.15, 9.30, 10.30 A.M., and 12.5 P.M.

To CLACTON, WALTON, and HARWICH, on Easter Monday, from Liverpool-street at 8.25 A.M., calling at Stratford. Fares, Second, 4s. 9d., third, 4s.

BROXBOURNE and RYE HOUSE.—On Good Friday and Easter Monday Excursion Tickets will be issued from Liverpool-street, &c. Fares, 3s.; second, 1s. 9d.; third, 1s. 6d.

EPPING FOREST, Chingford, Woodford, Buckhurst-hill, and Loughton.—Excursion Tickets by all trains from Liverpool-street, Fenchurch-street, &c.—On Easter Monday a Special Service of Trains will run every ten minutes between Liverpool-street and Chingford, every half-hour between Fenchurch-street and Chingford, and every half-hour between Liverpool-street and Fenchurch-street and Loughton. Fares: First, 2s.; second, 1s. 2d.; third, 1s.

WM. BIRT, General Manager.

London, March, 1890.

DEATH AND DISABLEMENT BY ACCIDENT.

THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY assures £1,000 at death and full benefits at £4 per annum.

Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY, Chairman.
ANNUAL INCOME, £250,000.
60,0000 Annual Policyholders.
INVESTED CAPITAL and RESERVE FUND, £285,000.
COMPENSATION PAID, £2,750,000.
West-End Office:—8, Grand Hotel-buildings, W.C.
Head Office: 64, Cornhill, London, E.C.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Established 1853.

THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.

BUDGE-ROW, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Reserve Fund.............£85,000

FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£30 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.

DEPOSITS of £3 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.

For particulars apply to the Secretary,

F. H. ROCKE.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, and all descriptions of business premises, to be let or sold in London and country; valuable selections of building land also on hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLIDAY, Land and Estate Agent, 65 and 66, Chancery-lane, W.C., and Hendon.

SHOP and BASEMENT to LET, with first floor if necessary. Splendid position; back and front entrances; extra basement if required. Rent—£150 first year, £175 next two, £200 next four years. Long lease at small premium if required. No rates or taxes.—Apply HOUSEKEEPER, 11, Fetter-lane, Fleet-street, E.C.

OFFICES to LET! OFFICES to LET!! Well decorated. Gas and electric light. No rates or taxes. Housekeeper. Splendid position, noble entrance, suites of two to five rooms, rents from £32 third floor, £42 second floor, £52 first floor. Shop could be had.—Apply Housekeeper, St. Dunstan's-chambers, opposite Record Office, 10 and 11, Fetter-lane, Fleet-street, E.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE SALE.—64, PORTSDOWN-ROAD, MAIDA-VALE. On Bishop of London's Estate. Sixteen noble rooms; all magnificently decorated; hot and cold bath, &c. Lease 60 years; ground-rent £20. Will be absolutely sold for £800, although it cost £1,250 a few years back, was mortgaged for £850, and over £200 has just now been laid out on it. Eight adjoining similar houses have been sold within the last three months. A very decided and most unusual Bargain. Caretaker in charge.

NUREMBERG CASTLE MUSEUM.

IMPORTANT ART SALE AT COLOGNE.
PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

The well-known historical Art Collection at the Royal Castle at Nuremberg will be dispersed by public auction during the month of May by the undermentioned auctioneers:—

The collection consists of Arms and Armour (amongst which are some unique and very rare specimens), Porcelains, Fayences, Glass, rich Furniture, complete collections of Finger Rings of all ages, Charms, Amulets, Talismans, and Keys, unequalled assemblage of Musical Instruments, historical Costumes. A large number of Paintings, all fine historical portraits, several formerly belonging to the Margraves of Brandenburg; complete collection of the insignia of the ancient guilds of Nuremberg. P. Hötner's masterpiece: a cherry stone with 113 heads carved on it. First edition of Hans Sachs's poems, with autograph signatures and corrections for a fresh edition; and hundreds of other articles of the highest importance and interest. Illustrated catalogues 1s. each can be had from the Auctioneers, J. M. HEBERLE (H. Lempertz Söhne), Cologne, Germany; and from J. ICHENHAUSER, 68, New Bond-street, London, W., Agent for Great Britain.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE. FORTNIGHTLY MAIL SERVICE.

The following Steamships leave LONDON as under, PLYMOUTH one day later, NAPLES nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY with her Majesty's Mails, calling at COLOMBO, and taking Passengers for all Ports in AUSTRALASIA.

	Tons.	H.P.	
OROYA	6,057	7,000	April 11
ORIZABA	6,077	7,000	April 25
LIGURIA	4,648	4,200	May 9
ORMUZ	6,031	8,500	May 23
OROTAVA	5,552	7,000	June 6
AUSTRAL	5,524	7,000	June 20

Loading Berth, Tilbury Docks.
Fares from £17 17s. to £70.

Managers, F. Green and Co., 13, Fenchurch-avenue, and Anderson, Anderson, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm; or to the West-end Agents, Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

P. AND O. MAIL STEAMERS. ACCELERATED THROUGH SERVICES as under:—

BOMBAY by P. and O. from London and Brindisi every week.

CALCUTTA, CEYLON, and NAPLES, direct by P. and O. from London every fortnight.

CHINA, STRAITS, and JAPAN by P. and O. from London and Brindisi, every fortnight.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c., direct by P. and O. from London and Brindisi every fortnight.

GIBRALTAR, MALTA, BRINDISI, PORT SAID, and ISMAILIA. The Company despatch weekly from London one of their large well-appointed steamers for the above ports, and Alexandria every fortnight.

CHEAP RETURN TICKETS.

For particulars apply at the Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, E.C., and 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.

INDIA, CEYLON, JAVA, QUEENSLAND, BURMAH, PERSIA, EAST AFRICA, &c.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED).
(BRITISH INDIA ASSOCIATION.)

MAIL STEAMERS from LONDON.

CALCUTTA	Fortnightly
MADRAS	"
COLOMBO	"
RANGOON	"
KURRACHEE	"
BAGHDAD	"
BATAVIA	Four weekly
BRISBANE	"
ROCKHAMPTON	"
ZANZIBAR	"

Delivering Mails, Passengers, Specie, and Cargo at all the principal ports of INDIA, BURMAH, EAST AFRICA, QUEENSLAND, and JAVA.

Every comfort for a Tropical Voyage.

Apply to GRAY, DAWES, and CO., 13, Austin Friars, E.C., and 4, Pall-mall East, S.W.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO., Albert-square, Manchester; 51, Pall-mall, and Dock House, Billiter-street.

CUNARD LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS. — LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK direct EVERY SATURDAY, and BOSTON EVERY THURSDAY. Fares, 12, 15, 18, and 21 guineas, and £26; return ticket 25, 30, and 35 guineas, and £45. Intermediate passage £8 8s. Steerage at low rates. Parcels will be received at the City Office three days before date of sailing.—Apply to the Cunard Steamship Company (Limited), in Liverpool, 8, Water-street; or in London, 6, St. Helen's-place, E.C., and 28, Pall-mall, S.W.

THE ABERDEEN LINE. LONDON to AUSTRALIA, viâ Cape of Good Hope, in forty-two days.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	Sailing.
AUSTRALASIAN	Simpson	3,650	May 10
DAMASCUS	Douglas	3,709	June 24

The above favourite full-powered steamers will sail from the Royal Albert Docks for Melbourne and Sydney, taking passengers for all Australian and New Zealand ports. The accommodation for first and third-class passengers is very superior, and an experienced surgeon will accompany each vessel. Fares—Saloon, from 40 guineas; third class, from 14 guineas.—For particulars apply to GEO. THOMPSON & Co., 24, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

GERMANY.—SPECIAL EASTER TRIP.—Ocean Express steamer *SAALE*, of the Norddeutscher Lloyd New York Fleet, 5,500 tons, 8,000-horse power, takes passengers for BREMEN on arrival at Southampton morning of Thursday, 3rd April. Return steamers leave Bremen April 5 and 9. Return fares from London, including excellent table, first-class, £4 15s. 6d.; second-class, £3 1s.—Agents: Keller, Wallis, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-street, City; 32, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, London; and at Southampton.

COOK'S EASTER EXCURSIONS to PARIS, HOLLAND, BELGIUM, &c.—Paris and back, viâ Dieppe (Day and Night Service), 30s. 3d; viâ Calais, 30s.; and personally conducted Excursions, including hotel accommodation, carriage drives, &c., 77s. 3d. To Brussels, Antwerp, and back, 29s.; Rotterdam or Antwerp and back, 24s. Programme for stamp; or Easter Excursionist, free 3d.—THOS. COOK and SON, Ludgate-circus; 99, Gracechurch-street; 33, Piccadilly; 82, Oxford-street; 445, West Strand, &c.

SOUTHSEA LAUNDRY COMPANY (LIMITED).

The Directors have sanctioned that the New Lady Superintendent and Manageress of this Company (Miss Heal) may take lady pupils to train (in this, one of the oldest, largest, and most successful steam laundries in the country) as Lady Superintendents; also to train sorters and packers. The demand for trained ladies in such capacities is rapidly increasing, and there is literally no supply. *Vide* extract on the subject in Ladies' Corner, *Pall Mall Gazette*:—"Your very interesting article on the 'Lady Guides' has set me wondering more than ever that among all the new occupations for women obliged to earn their living, so very few are taking up the higher branches of laundry work as a profession. The demand for trained ladies as superintendents and as sorters and packers in laundries is daily increasing, and there is literally no supply.

* * * * * *

"Thus a new field for employment is opening out for ladies of limited means or for those seeking profitable and suitable occupation."

For terms and particulars apply to Miss HEAL, Lady Superintendent, SOUTHSEA LAUNDRY COMPANY, Highland-road, Southsea.

PS.—Only a limited number of pupils can be taken at a time. Small premiums required.

Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—TUESDAY, April 1, 1890.